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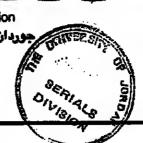
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Volume 18 Number 5453

AMMAN THURSDAY-FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4-5, 1993, JUMADA AL AWAL 20-21, 1414

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Jordan Times reporters on the trail of candidates and their campaigns in various constituencies in the Kingdom

Zarqa, proletariat of Jordan, will vote in those who invested time and money in its development

Islamists expected to win their bid; toss up for many others

By Ayman Al Safadi in Zarga

WHEN THE people of Zarqu. whom one observer calls the proletariat of Jordan, go to the polls on Nov. 8, the majority will vote for those who have traditionally helped them meet their needs when others, including the government, showed neglect. They will support the choice of the Muslim Brotherhood Movement: the Islamic Action Front (LAF).

The IAF, the political arm of the Brotherhood, is contesting three of the four parliamentary Muslim seats allocated for Zarqa and most observers say it has an excellent chance of winning its bid.

The two other seats in Zarqa will be filled by a Christian and a member of the Circassian and Chechen communi-

With a population of about 500,000 people, Zarga, 25 kilometres north-east of Amman, grew from a small town built around the railroad and British military posts early this century into Jordan's

tribe and backing of a strong

party, the Islamie Action

Front (IAF) candidate, Has-

san Al Tal, stands a good

chance of securing one of Irbid's eight Muslim and one

Like in many other consti-

tuencies in the Kingdom, the

ideal candidate in Irbid

(which comprises the city and

immediate villages surround-

ing it like Sarech, Barhah,

Howwarah, Husn and Haka-

ma) is the one who can com-

bine the support of both the

politically committed voter

Christian seats.

second largest city. Its populatinn has its roots in all parts of Jordan and the West Bank, making the city a microcosm of the country.

But in a country which for long formulated its policies with an eye on tribal considerations, the diverse demographic composition of the city did it more harm than good. Zarqa did not have the clout that other smaller but tribally based towns have and thus did not receive the economic and political attention that its residents believe it deserves.

The Muslim Brotherhood has filled the gap with an extensive network of social and charitable organisations that offered health, educational and cultural services as well as financial support for the city's poorer residents. In return, the movement won their loyalty.

"The Muslim Brotherhood built a parallel government in said prominent lawyer and long resident of Zarqa Taher Hikmat. "It is

Sixty candidates, including

five former mimsters and de-

puties and first time candi-

dates, combine family links,

political affiliation with ser-

vices rendered to the com-

munity to lure voters to their

Mr. Tal, Kayed Omari, Abdul Rahim Ekour and Abmad Kofahi, the four offi-

cial IAF candidates, all enjoy

the backing of their large

tribes and expect that at least

three of them will reach the

domed parliament, (the

weakest IAF candidate



the only group that reached the hearts of the city's residents and maintained constant communication with he said.

The Brotherhood tapped this support in 1989 when Zarqa sent two of its members. Theeb Anis and Mohammed Al Haj, to Parliament. The two other Muslim seats went to Ziad Abu Mahfouz, an independent Islamist who was supported by the Brotherhood and Palestinian refugees, and Salameh Al Gweiri, a centrist from the large Bani Hassan tribe. The Circassian and Chechen seat was won by Sheikh Abdul Baqi Jammo. an independent Islamist; Bassam Haddadin, a leftist, won the Christian seat with the

support of the Palestinian

who can blend party support and tribal backing

appears to be Mr. Omari).

Muslim Brotherhood Move-

ment, which dominates the

IAF, won four mandates in

Irbid and 23 all over the

country. The highest number

of votes in the Kingdom

(32,651) went to Mr. Kofahi,

then a member of the move-

ment before its registration as

a political party, the IAF, in

at least one survey expect the

Islamists to do worse this

time around, mainly because

of the introduction of a one-

person, one-vote formula

into the Election Law.

Government officials and

To the 1989 elections, the

The Islamist, tribal and Palestinian vote will again determine the winners in the electoral race in Zarqa where 53 candidates are vying for the support of the city's 192.932 registered voters.

Even though five indepen-

dent Islamist candidates are contesting the elections in Zarqa governorate, which includes the town of Russeifeh and has a population of about 750.000, most observers expect the Islamist vote to favour the three IAF candidates: former deputy Anis, who won 25.517 voters or 43.88 per cent of the vote in the 1989 elections; former deputy Haj, who then won 18.905 votes or 32.51 per cent of the vote; and Bassam Al Omush, a former professor of Sharia at the University of Jordan, who is running for the first time.

Observers say the IAF is assured of success in Zarqa not only because of the traditional support it has in the city but also because of its highly organised campaign.

Another survey, however, predicted that the front will

secure 25 seats in the Nov. 8

The change in the law deprived the IAF, the most orga-

nised of 20 parties contesting

the polls, of forming alliances

with other candidates and

groups. But Irbidis appear to

still support the Islamists.

mainly because they re-

mained in touch with their

constituents and their needs

throughout the four-year

term of the 11tb Parliament.

ber of the IAF and a long-

rime journalist, refutes argu-

ments that the Islamists

Mr. Tal, a founding mem-

The Front has divided the constituency into three districts to ensure the necessary distribution of votes among its candidates.

Another factor that will play into the hands of the IAF candidates is the Front's control of the municipal council. The Brotherhood won the mayorship of the city in 1990 on the "Islam is the solution" platform, and the IAF has been citing the achievements of the council to boost the Islamist image.

Independent Islamist Ziad Abu Mahfouz, who won 6,513 votes in 1989, will be a strong contender because he will again expect to be supported by the vote of the large community of refugees from his home town of Beir Al Sabe. according to Muneeb Al Werr, a former University of Jordan professor from Zarqa who lost his bid for election in 1989.

Dr. Werr and other observers believe, however, that Mr. Abu Mahfouz's position (Continued on page 5) The contest in Irbid: Lucky those candidates

did in the 1989 elections.

are disillusioned with Islamist

candidates," said Mr. Tal. who is also on the board of

the Al-Dustour Arabic daily.

"We are hopeful that we will

do well in the elections de-

spite many limiting factors,

mainly the change in the

by Yarmouk University stu-dents, the four IAF candi-

dates on Monday organised a

rally where they responded to

questions posed by an audi-

(Continued on page 5)

At a restaurant frequented

Election Law."

"It is not true that voters

CF 5

His Majesty King Hussein and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday hold

talks with German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

The minister noted that Ger-

many had extended more than DM 1 billion (about JD 450

million) in assistance to Jordan

over the years and that it had

signed a new agreement under

wbich it would offer DM 43.8

million (JD 18 million) in aid

In addition, he said, Bonn

was also poised to convert DM

9.5 million (JD 4 million) in

loans to Jordan into grants. An

agreement in principle was

reached on this issue during the visit last month of a senior

to the Kingdom in 1994.

Germany praises Jordan's stand and pledges support

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel pledged Wednesday that his country's political and economic support for the Middle East peace process would be applied in a manner that benefits all parties involved in the Arab-Israeli

Mr. Kinkel, addressing a press conference after talks with His Majesty King Hussein, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and other senior officials, noted that 28.6 per cent of the nearly \$600 million in European Community (EC) assistance to developing the Palestinian economy in the occupied West

Bank and Gaza Strip were coming from Germany.

In general, be said, Germany will ensure that "our aid is in such a way that benefits everybody. The German minister, who voiced high appreciation for Jordan's commitment to the

two-year-old peace process and the Kingdom's stand vis-avis various international issues, said his country was aware of the economic problems facing 'We have no intention whatsoever of forgetting Jordan" in

delegation from the German the process of supporting the ministry of economic coopera-Israel-Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) agreement on interim Palestinian autonomy in the occupied ter-(Cootinued on page 4)

pledges security in Gaza, Egypt mediates

CAIRO (Agencies) — Chief Palestinian negotiator Nabil Shaath said Wednesday that a Palestinian police force, perhaps backed by U.N. or multinational troops, could provide security for everyone in the Gaza Strip.

His remarks, the first hint of involving international forces in Gaza, came a day after the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) walked out of peace talks in anger over Israel's plans to use its own forces to guard Jewish settlers

Egypt moved quickly to heal the rift in the talks, aimed at implementing the PLO-Israel accord to withdraw from Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa met Wednesday with Dr. Shaath and was to travel to Israel on Thursday for talks with Prime Minsiter Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Dr. Shaath said after the session that restarting the talks at the Egyptian resort of Taba

would depend on Mr. Musa's meetings in Israel. Earlier, he suggested that a summir between PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and Mr. Rabin might be needed to get the talks back on

Mr. Arafat on Wednesday received a telegram from U.S. President Bill Clinton on the self-rule negotiations with Israel, the Palestinian news ageocy WAFA said. In his first contact with the

(Continued on page 4)

Balqa, no stranger to politicised campaigns, to grapple with influence of refugee vote, Islamists and tribes

By Nermeen Murad in Salt

By Suheir Obeidat in Irbid

WITH THE support of his and members of his tribe.

THE CAPITAL city of Balga Governorate, which bas historically been an influential centre of Jordanian politics, is no longer guarded by an abstract landscape of hills and evasive politicians. The hills have been invaded by the loud and disturbing colours of otherwise empty banners. Its usually active politicians are contributing to an ceric tension by their low-key involvement and sidestepping of pleas for support from the 47 candidates for the district's eight parliamen-

tary scats. But what brings this district

to the fore more than anything else is that among its 127,520 registered voters, the three most commanding political forces in the Kingdom, are pitted against each other in a struggle for survival: Tribal, Islamist and the largest Palestinian refugee camp in the Kingdom. And

to the citizens of Balqa, the

alloted seats (six Muslim and

two Christian) are just not

enough to go around. Apart from the obvious consequences of introducting the one-person, one-vote clectoral system in August, or more accurately because

of that change, several fac-tors that usually figured into the Balga election mathematics are no longer the same.

The Baga'a refugee camp. home to about 22, 800 votes. has traditionally been the picking ground for tribal candidates from the city of Salt, as well as for the Muslim Brotherhood movement.

This time around, however, the camp has three candidates of its own, two of whom stand a good chance of being elected.

They are Ibrahim Shihdeh Al Haj Yousef (mainstream PLO supporter) and Mohammad Oweidah (Islamic Action Front IAF candidate)

Most analysts interviewed by the Jordan Times believe the chances of the two to be elected are all the stronger because the camp has been able to split its votes almost down the middle between

If true, this leaves very little ground for manoeuvre by other candidates in the district except for a small percentage of camp residents who traditionally allied themselves with one tribe or another or are committed supporters of a political party and that has fielded a candi-

What was traditionally another vote bank for candi-

date in the race.

dates is the area of Allan in which the Zoubi clan constitutes a majority.

This area, which is home to

about 4,000 voters, however, is being contested by Anwar Al Zoubi and a host of other candidates who have traced their history to that area, including former Deputy Awni Bashir. Neither is expected to draw enough other votes from the outlaying areas in the district to secure a winning position.

Even though some other candidates may expect support from that area. observers believe it cannot serve as

(Continued on page 4)

Palestinians indifferent to Likud victory in Jerusalem elections

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians living in East Jerusalem, expressed indifference Wednesday towards the election of right-wing Likud Party candidate Ehud Olmert as the city's new mayor. These elections do not con-

cern us," said Ziyad Genem, a hotel owner. "Voting would mean recognising Jerusalem as the capital of Israel."

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) called a boycott of the ballot which brought an end to 45 years of Laboor Party rule. Only about 6,500 of the 95,000 Palestinians living in the eastern sector turned out to vote, despite an appeal from veteran Teddy Kollek for Arabs to vote and block a right-wing victory.

Mr. Kollek supported the Sept. 13 autonomy deal for the Gaza Strip and Jericbo but the new mayor, Ebud Olmert, strongly opposes it and backs Jewish settlers.

"Both Labour and Likud bave a common policy regard-ing Jerusalem. They deny it is occupied land and proclaim it as a united capital," said Saed Erakat, deputy bead of the

Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace talks. "We have made an agreement with Israel's government and not its town halls." Dr.

Erakat added. Ziyad Abu Ziyad, another Palestinian peace negotiator. said: "It's an internal Israeli affair, but the oroolem of Jerusalem is political and not muni-

Expressing a view common among East Jeruselem's Palestinians, Mr. Genem said the election results "prove that

(Continued on page 4)

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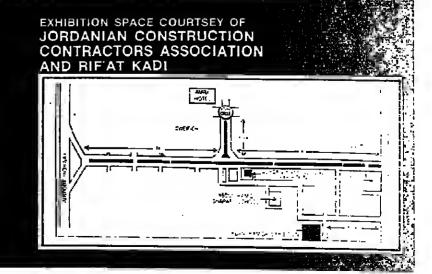
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West presses Russia on anti- Libya sanctions

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — U.S. President Bill Clinton and British Prime Minister John Major in sepa-rate letters pressured Russian President Boris Yeltsin to support tighter sanctions against Libya because of the 1988 airliner bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland, diplomats said Tues-

The United States, Britain and France expected to bring the sanctions measures to a vote in the Security Council within a week, despite Moscow's threats to veto the draft because of Libya's 4 billion debt to Russia.

Mr. Clinton sent bis letter to Mr. Yeltsin Monday and Mr. Major followed Tuesday, both apparently explaining the consegnences of a veto, envoys

And French Prime Minister Edouard Balladur brought up the controversy during his current visit to Moscow, they added.

"If we don't move soon we will lose all credibility," said one diplomat involved in the negotiations. "And if Russia vetos, the U.S. Congress will frown on any future aid."

Whether the allies will change any part of their draft resolution is not certain. But so far they have rejected writing mto the text suggestions that Libya's assets would be seized to pay Russia the \$4 billion Tripoli owes.

The draft resolution bars some oil-related equipment and freezes some assets overseas because of Libya's failure to hand over for trial in the United States or Britain

two men accused of bombing a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie in December 1988, killing

270 people.

Libya also must cooperate with a French inquiry into the bombing of a French plane over Niger in September 1989 which killed 171 people.

Russia, which had sold arms and contracted construction projects in Libya, has argued that the Europeans took care not to ban Tripoli's high-grade crude to nations such as Germany and Italy but did not consider Libya's debt to Mos-

The council, in an April 1992 resolution, imposed an arms. air and diplomatic embargo on Libya. The new sanctions bar oil refinery equipment, but exclude oil drilling equipment from the ban as well as revenues earned from oil sales after the resolution is adopted.

A Russian veto would kill the measure. But even if Russia abstains, the draft might just scrape through with the minimum nine votes required in the 15-member council.

While a close vote would still be legally binding on all U.N. members, it would reveal a lack of political support on the question of extraditing citizens of a member state.

Libya bas said the accused, Abdul Baset Ali Al Megrahi and Al Amin Khalifa Fhimah. could stand trial in Scotland if they agreed, but a team of

lawyers advised against it. The United States Tuesday rejected U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali's sug-gestion that the international effort to force Libya to give up

the two suspects has failed. "We share the secretarygeneral's frustration with Libya's continued refusal to comply with U.N. Security Council resolutions but do not believe the policy of using sanctions as one anti-terrorism tool bas failed," State Department spokesman David John-

son said. "I would note that while Libya is not in full compliance with any aspect of U.N. resolutions, the sanctions have had an important deterrent effect as regards Libvan support for terrorism and connections with terrorists groups," he cold re-

He was responding to an interview Dr. Gbali gave Friday to the Washington Post. The Post quoted the secretary-general as saying that

be had spent endless hours discussing extradition with the Libyans in connection with the 1988 bombing and "this is a case where there is a total

Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has said he will not force the two men to leave Libya for trial, but would not object if they left voluntarily.

Mr. Johnson said the United States was determined, in consultation with the United Nations, to "continue our efforts until Libya complies fully" and turns the men over for pro-

He refused to say anything about the status of negotiations with Russia on the matter, or when the new sanctions might be put to a vote in the Security

against Muslim militants CAIRO (R) - The Egyptian gov-Mr. Sberif spoke one week ernment, insisting that the after Saber Abu Al Ala, 28, targeted foreign tourists, hotel slaying of three Wester-ners last week was the work of policemen and Christians. opened fire on foreigners dining at Cairo's Semeramis Hotel, killing two Americans and a French expert. Prosecua madman acting alone, bas begun a hearts and minds cam-

Egypt seeks to turn public

paign to turn ordinary Egyp-tians against Muslim militants. Egyptian Information Minister Safwat Sberif, speaking on

TORN PLANS: A Palestinian woman walks

past ripped posters of the former Jerusalem

mayor, Teddy Kollek, in Arab East Jerusalem

Tuesday, rejected suggestions that there was any link between the Oct. 26 killing and a bloody campaign by Muslim militants to topple the government of President Hosni Mubarak.

Dismissing militant violence as the "price of democracy", he said the government had set up 55 information centres in Egypt to "explain the dangers of militants' thinking and vio-lence."

"Efforts to abort fundamentalist views yielded fruits", he told Reuters in an interview. He said one example of this

was that Egyptian citizens have belped the police arrest militants, sometimes getting killed in the process. "Our information plans and

campaigns take stands opposite to those of militants. We. are telling the citizen to move forward and act his age and become an international citizen," he added.

tors are still investigating Mr. Abu Al Ala, who bas not been formally indicted.

The government has consistently said Mr. Abu Al Ala was a madman acting on his own and Mr. Sherif lashed out at Western media, which he said falsely sought to paint bim as a militant sympathiser. "It has been formally

announced the man was deranged but the Western media is trying to establish links between him and the militants, Mr. Sberif said.

"I hate to see the international... media fabricating news. It seems some reporters are insisting on establishing a link between the militants and tbe insane killer," Mr. Sberif

At least 210 people have been killed and more than 500 have been wounded in battles between militants and the police over the past 18 months. The government has blamed

the attacks on Muslim militants seeking to overtbrow Mr. Mubarak's government and establish a strict Islamic state.

Mr. Sherif said Egypt's

Wednesday, a day after the elections. Kollek

mayor for the last 28 years, lost to Liknd

candidate Ehud Olmert (AFP photo)

struggle with militants, 38 of whom have been sentenced to death by military courts in the last year, was a result of its democracy and openness. "Violence by militants was

the price of democracy and our openness onto the outside world after decades of isolation," he said, "But despite the risk Egypt will not go back on democracy and will keep chanils open with the outside

"We don't wan: the Egyptian to live as a villager the rest of his life. We want him to live in his age," he said. Mr. Mubara, has ruled out

any concession to Islamic mili-

In a recent interview with French daily Liberation, Mr. Mubarak said his government had tried talks with militaris in an attempt to end the vice ace but these went nowhere.

"Now that they've taken up arms, we cannot have any dialogue with them... we will never legalise their parties. I will make no concessions to the Islamists, we will fight with arms those who take up arms against us," Mr. Mubarak said.

government has done some-

thing against the interests of

the revolution," he said of the

banning of the march by the

"The minister should resign,

or the government should be

censured," declared Mr. Mohtashemi, a former interior

minister who has been largely

sidelined during Mr. Rafsan-

"Revolutionary forces will

not remain silent towards the

Saeed Rajaei Khorasani,

who heads the Majlis foreign

relations committee, has come

under attack in the press and

Majlis for wrining a letter to

supreme leader Ayatollah Ali

Khamenei on the merits of

infantile acts of the executive,"

Interior Ministry.

jani's presidency.

NEWS IN BRIEF

PLO official arrested as Mossad spy

TUNIS (AFP) - A top Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) security official has been arrested in Tunis on charges of spying for Israel and bugging the organisation's headquarters, a Palestinian official disclosed here Wednesday. He may also have been plotting to kill PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, the official said. Adnan Hassan Yassin, 44, aide to PLO security chief Hakam Balawi, was found to have placed listening devices in the offices of Mr. Balawi and another top PLO official. Mahmoud Abbas. Mr. Yassin's son, 24-year-old Hani, was also arrested. Mr. Yassin was cluse to Mr. Arafat and often had direct access to the PLO chief, the official said. The Tunisian security services, tipped off by their French counterparts, arrested the two at the beginning of last week, after monitoring clandestine broadcasts they made to the Israeli intelligence service Mossad, the official said. Hani Yassin was arrested when the security services seized a car he was driving, which was "crammed with electronic spying equipment." The car had come from Germany, via France. equipment. The car was "probably" going to be used in a car-bomh attack against Mr. Arafat, the official added. The suspects were arrested and questioned by the Tunisian police before being handed over to the Palestinian security services, the official said. Mr. Yassin has been stationed in Tunis since 1970 and was frequently consulted by Mr. Arafat on security matters, he added. A Palestinian official in Amman said Wednesday that Mr. Yassin was "monitoring all the movements of PLO leaders, even their private activities" for Mossad. Mossad is believed to have recruited Mr. Yassin in 1990 in a European capital, he added.

Factional fighting returns to Kabul

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) - Troops loyal to the president exchanged tank and rocket fire with the prime minister's militia Wednesday in the third straight day of combat between the two archenemies. The fighting between President Burhanuddin Rabbani's forces and Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's faction moved to Kabul after two days of warfare around Tagab, 60 kilometres to the northeast. Mr. Rabbani's supporters hold much of the lartered capital, but Mr. Hekmatyar's Hezb-e-Islami faction controls the outskirts, and they began shelling Kabul's eastern neighbourhood of Qabel-bay on Tuesday night, according to resider's, Mr. Rabbani's forces, commanded by Ahmad Shah Masood, sent tanks into the area Wednesday morning and shelled Hezb-e-Islami positions for two hours, witnesses added. No reliable casualty figures were available. However, Allahuddin, a commander loyal to Mr. Rabbani, said about 15 people were wounded near his front-line position. "Hezb-e-Islami started firing mortars into this area last night. We didn't respond till this morning," he said.

mon fu

Thailand wants out of U.S.-Libyan row

BANGKOK (AFP) - Thailand wants to avoid involvement in a confrontation between the United States and Libya but is determined to abide by a U.N. convention banning chemical weapons, Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Soonsiri was quoted Wednesday as saving. He was reacting to reports that Libya had ordered the firing and repatriation of 5,500 Thai workers there in retaliation for moves in Bangkok to end Thai participation in producing illegal enemical weapons in the country. Thailand has been under pressure from the United States in recent months to crack down on local job agencies sending Thai workers to Libya allegedly to help build chemical weapons plants, Mr. Prasong told local reporters, "Thailand, as a signatory country of the anti-chemical weapons convention, will abide by any requirement stated in it." He pointed out that be bad instructed Thailand's ambassador to Greece. who is also accredited to Libya, to tell Tripoli that Thailand was merely honouring the convention and was not following directives from the United States.

German talks with GCC may lead to training

ABU DHABI (R) - Germany's first talks on defence cooperation with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) may lead to its training Gulf forces, a German officials said on Tuesday. "This bas been the first (defence) discussion ...and this idea could lead mainly to support in training," Jorg Schonbobm, under-secretary of state at the German Defence Ministry, told Reuters in an interview. Mr. Schonbohm, who this week met defence ministers from Oman. Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates and was due to visit Kuwait, ruled out the possibility of joint exercises or of a German naval presence in the area. He said Iran's military machine was the biggest worry of Gulf military officials.

Judge slams British ministry over Iraq deals

LONDON (R) - A judge investigating Britain's arms-for-Iraq scandal on Tuesday accused the Ministry of Defence of allowing the export of machine tools to Iraq when they were "obviously" going to be used to make weapons. Lord Justice Sir Richard Scott, who heads the inquiry into whether the government knowingly broke its own rules and sold arms to Baghdad before the 1991 Gulf war, also sharply rebuked government officials for withholding crucial documents. A senior Defence Ministry official, Alan Barrett, told the inquiry that a major consignment of British equipment worth £40 million (\$59 million) bad been approved in 1987 at the height of the Iran-Iraq war. Mr. Barrett, who was then the senior official responsible for maintaining government guidelines restricting exports to Iraq, said there had been no direct evidence that the equipment would be used to manufacture munitions. But Judge Scott, shot back: "What were these machine tools going to be used for at a time of war? They were not going to be used to make washing machines. They were obviously going to be used to make armaments given the state of the war." Prime Minister John Major ordered the inquiry a year ago after three managers of the British machine tools firm Matrix Churchill were acquitted of illegally exporting to Iraq.

Iraqis turn back to dates to alleviate U.N. sanctions

turning back to dates, a tradi-tional part of their diet. to alleviate the food shortages brought about by three years of U.N. sanctions.

Production is up and Iraqis are eating most of the dates instead of selling them abroad. We now consume almost all that we produce. The dates

are helping a great deal in fighting the effects of sanctions," said Mohammad Salim of the Chamber of Commerce. Last year Iraq harvested ab-

out 450,000 tonnes and the figure this year is expected to jump to 500,000. Production averaged 350,000 tonnes a year between 1983 and 1988. according to the Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Until 1990, when the United Nations imposed the trade embargo in response to Iraq invading Kuwait, exports had been rising sharply, from about 150,000 tonnes in 1986/87 to 163,000 junnes in 1988/1989 and 373,000 in the next year.

Even if date exports were possible. Iraq might choose to keep them to compensate for the decline in food imports. Iraq has turned down U.N. terms for oil exports so it does not have the foreign exchange to import all the food that it needs.

Mr. Salim said that from local production the average Iraui received at least 22 kilogrammes of dates a year.

That would give each Iraqi about 120 calories and one gram of prolein a day - a significant supplement to the

Prices are almost within reach of most families. A kilogrammes of dates now costs about 10 dinars.

compare because the dinar can be converted at the official rate - one dinar to \$3.20 - or at the black-market rate - about 100 dinars to the dollar.

The government has occasionally added dates to the subsidised rations it has been providing to protect Iraqis from high prices on the open market. The rations, which include

rice, flour, sugar and cooking oil, provide about 40 per cent of the food Iraqis need. They have to buy the rest as best they can.

The government, anxious to make the most of the country's own agricultural resources, has been preaching the nutritive values of dates through the state-run media. In Baghdad it is compulsory to have at least one date palm in your garden.

But at a four-day seminar in dates in Baghdad this month, experts said the number of trees in Iraq had been decreasing at an alarming rate because of war, disease and neglect. Falah Sa'id Jaber of the

Arab Federation of Food 1ndustries said Iraq now had only 13 million fruitful trees left. The country once had 32 million, 40 per cent of all the 80 million date palms in the

world. But the area around the southern city of Basra, once a sea of date palms as far as the eve could see, was devastated in the war with Iran between 1980 and 1988 and to a lesser extent in the Gulf war over

Kuwait in 1991. Up to one million men and hundreds of tanks took part in barrles near Basra between the Iraqi and the Iranians and some of the battles took place

in or near the date palm plantations.

Many trees further from the front were blown up by shells. Mr. Saleh said Basra had more than 10 million trees two decades ago but other regions had now overtaken it in date

Kurds' power blackouts

Iraq has blamed U.N. sancfor the power blackout in areas of northern Iraq since August.

An Industry Ministry statement said electrical lines around Dohuk could not be repaired due to a shortage of spare parts, according to a Tuesday night Iraqi radio broadcast.

"Necessary spares are unavailable as a result of the unfair blockade and the fact that the U.N. Security Council sanctions committee has not agreed to allow Iraq to import material, equipment, and machinery needed for the electricity network," the statement said.

In a clear reference to Kurdish fighters, the statement -added that "deceived cliques in the northern parts of the country had saholaged and stolen lines carrying electrical power ...including towers and

Earlier reports had accused. the government of deliberately shutting off power stations in its latest act of repression against the three million ethnic

The Iraqi radio report said that if the media circulating the reports were concerned about the welfare of the Kurds, they should support Iraq's call for an end to the U.N. embargo.

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Iranians hold anti-U.S. rally TEHRAN (R) - Several hundred radical students held a

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

rally on Tuesday to mark the anniversary of the 1979 seizure of the U.S. embassy and voice anger at President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani's govern-They set fire to a U.S. flag

but combined chants of "death to America" with verbal attacks on the Interior Ministry for banning their planned march to the former U.S. embassy building. Ali Akbar Mobtasbemi,

Iran's most radical public figure, addressed the crowd gathered at the gate of Tehran University campus from the back of a pickup truck, denouncing calls from within the establishment for negotiations to normalise relations with the United

This year for the first time the radicals had their anniversary rally on a different day from the main event which is to be held in front of the embassy on Thursday.

The activities have been spiced by a debate about relalions with the United States

prompted by a letter by a senior member of parliament who argued for opening of talks with Washington.

The United States, dubbed the "great Satan" by Iran's late revolutionary leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, broke diplomatic relations with Iran in 1980 during the crisis over the seizure of the embassy on Nove. 4, 1979. Fifty-two Americans taken hostage were released in January 1981.

Mr. Mohtashemi said the ban on Tuesday's rally was against the interests of the regime, the republic and the revolution," and added that Interior Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati "and even the government" should resign. He rejected any idea of rap-

prochement or negotiations with the United States, saying Iran's "revolutionary forces" wold not allow such a "humiliation.

the government of curbing political freedoms and adopting policies favouring the rich in its quest for economic development. "Today a minister or the

better relations with the United States. Mr. Khorasani acknowledged last week that he had

he added.

written a private letter to Ayatollah Khamenei, but did not go into details, accepting Speaker Ali Akbar Nateq-Nouri's request to keep the debate out of Majlis.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

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HOSPITALS

FOR THE TRAVELLER **QUEEN ALIA**

INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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Notices, regulations and suggestions for election day Elections 93

AMMAN (Petra) — All government departments and public institutions will be closed Monday Nov. 8, election day, according to a statement by Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Wednesday.

The statement said the day off will enable all government employees to exercise their right to vote.

Ban on carrying firearms

The Ministry of Interior is expected to announce a total han on carrying firearms on election day, according to the Public Security Department (PSD). In the 1989 elections. there were a few cases of shootings reported after the results of the elections were announced but no serious casualities were reported.

The Ministry of Interior early this year issued a set of new regulations regarding firearms ossession. The regulations called on all Jordanians possessing firearms to obtain a licence during January.

A PSD official said the department will prosecute any person found in possession of a firearm (licenced or unlicenced) on election day.

Vehicle licensing office to close

The PSD also announced that the Drivers and Vehicle Licencing Department (DVDL) will be closed from Saturday Nov. 6 through Tuesday Nov. 9.

The statement said that during these four days PSD officers working for the DVDL will be deployed to take up security duties during the elec-

Motorists who have appointments for driving tests during these days should call at the offices after Tuesday to set a new date for their exam.

The DVDL will resume regular office hours on Wednesday Nov. 10.

Duplicate voting is illegal

The Interior Ministry Wednesday warned holders of more than one voting card against attempting to cast more than one hallot in violation of the Election Law and said all measures are being taken to prevent such attempts.

The ministry has discovered duplicate names in the voting lists and has cancelled the repeated names, but found that some citizens still hold more than one card, said Interior Minister Salameh Hammad.

In cooperation with the voting committees the ministry will prevent people from using more than one card as updated voter lists were being distrihuted to all centres, said the minister.

The ministry has approved the list registered in the 1989 elections and discarded new registrations thus making it impossible for those holding two voting cards to vote more than once, added Mr. Hammad.

Stressing that an attempt to vote more than once is an act punishable by law, the minister said that those caught voting more than once will be imprisoned for at least three months and fined up to JD 500.

Some parties make suggestions

Meanwhile, the Islamic Action Front (IAF) and four other political parties Wednesday sent a message to Interior Minister Salameh Hammad suggesting that each voter be stamped on the finger to distinguish those who have cast their hallot from those who have not, to prevent any repeat

The message also suggested that the names of those citizens who were cancelled from the voter lists by the Ministry of Interior for any reason be posted at each polling station.

It urged the ministry to take measures to ensure that persons who were registered for the 1989 elections but failed to find their voter cards at the distribution centres in 1993 receive new cards so that they are able to vote on Monday.

Also Wednesday the Arah Islamic Democratic Movement sent another message to the interior minister suggesting that voting cards be torn immediately after the voters have cast their ballots. It said that such a measure would help authorities control the voting

2 more candidates withdraw

Two candidates running in the general elections Wednesday announced their withdrawal from the race, according to Amman Governor Talaat Nawaiseh.

The governor said that Hassan Al Dibs of the Third District and Mohammad Abdul Hadi Al Maharmeh of the Fourth District announced their withdrawal, but gave no

Jordan expected to get \$35m from EC to help economic programme

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Jordan is expected to receive \$35 million in European Community (EC) aid to help its balance of payments, informed sources said Wednesday.

The sources said a formal decision on the release of the funds was expected soon at the EC headquarters in Brus-

The money will come from a \$300 million package the EC allotted for Mediterranean countries to implement economic recovery programmes, they said.

Jordan, straining under a \$8.4 hillion foreign debt, launched an economic restructuring programme agreed to with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in 1989. Subsequently, it reduced the deht to \$6.88 hillion after repaying some, buying back others and cancelling non-disbursed credits included in the overall

AMMAN (Perra) — Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Wednesday urged official

media organisations to "make use of (Jordan's) democratic process - to provide every citizens with the correct and

objective information — and to express people's concerns in a manner that helps officials to

obtain a true picture" of the

Dr. Majali emphasised the

necessity of developing "gov-

ernment media to become

"media for the homeland and

Speaking at a meeting at the

its internal and external in-

Ministry of Information attended by Minister Ma an

Abu Nowar and ministry de-

partment chiefs. Dr. Majuli

said that the ministry and its

departments ought to free themselves from the traditional method of presetting dry reports

and news materials into analys-

ing and commenting on news

in a manner that would reflect

both the positive and negative

Sound and objective in-

ui citizens, und ministry

formation should be accessible

officials are duty bound to

VISITING QAF: Her Royal

Highness Princess Basma

Wednesday receives Ursu-

la Kinkel (third from left)

wife of German Foreign

Minister Klaus Kinkel, at

the Queen Alia Fund for

Social Development

(QAF). Mrs. Kinkel was

also received by members

of the QAF board of trus-

tees and QAF staff. During

her visit, Mrs. Kinkel was

briefed on the develop-

ment work of the Fund in

various areas of Jordan

and future ontlooks. Mrs.

Kinkel, who was accompa-

nied by Mrs. Reiners, wife

aspects of events.

situation

Jordan has already received nearly \$50 million from the EC assistance package, and the funds would be mostly spent on local development. officials said. Specified use of the funds is part of the grant agreement, they noted.

"The expected funds will be over and above the regular European Commission assistance to Jordan under the consecutive protocols it has signed with the Kingdom," said one

The EC Commission, the executive arm of the community, maintains a strong presence in Amman to follow up on the implementation of the protocols and other related agreements.

European diplomats say that in view of the need to improve the quality of life for the people of the region as part of efforts to ensure the success of the Arab-Israeli process, their governments are ready to help

"We are ready to discuss concrete projects and investments," said a senior European diplomat, adding that by and large this reflected the sentiments of those EC countries which are in a position to extend assistance.

Jordan is pushing for debt relief from some of the EC governments grouped in the Paris Club of official creditors.

Switzerland, a non-EC country, became the first European country and member of the Paris Club to extend debt relief to Jordan by converting about \$23 million in loans to outright grants. The only stipulation in the arrangement was that 27 per cent of the amount will be spent on certain specific sectors of the economy.

Germany has offered a similar arrangement for parts of its loans to Jordan. During a visit to the Kingdom last month. a senior German official signed a new JD 18 million aid agreement for 1994 and offered the conversion of nearly JD 4 million in loans to grants.

Again, half of the amount will have to be spent on specific sectors stipulated in a formal agreement, which is expected to be signed soon.

Jordan is seeking similar gestures from its other European countries, but some of the concerned governments are helieved to be adopting a position. that outright debt relief could not be offered to Jordan under the present global economic conditions and deht situation since other Third World creditors would seek similar gestures citing Jordan as a prece-

The Jordanian position is that it should be seen as a special case because its foreign debts were not incurred in a typical situation of a Third World country overborrowing. The Kingdom argues that much of its present debt burden was created as a result of events beyond its contral, such as the waves of refugees it has accepted over the years and the Gulf crisis which not only dealt a severe blow to its economy, but also prompted a fresh wave of people into its

Visiting senior Russian official says Moscow fully backs peace efforts

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting senior Russian official said here Wednesday that his country fully backs efforts for peace and continues to work towards establishing security and stahility in the Middle East region.

Mr. K. Gregory said in a. statement that during his visit to Jordan he planned to meet with media officials as well as observe preparations for covering the parliamentary elections. He said that the Jordanian experiment in this arena may benefit the Russian elections next month.

Mr. Gregory was speaking at a meeting with Minister of Information Ma'an Abu Nowar with whom he reviewed the election process and discussed Jordan's position with regard to Middle East peace.

Mr. Gregory, who is head of the Information and Press Section at the Russian Foreign Abu Nowar bilateral relations, especially in media fields, and the prospect of signing an information agreement to boost the exchange of cooperation in information-related affairs.

He said that Russian Jewish

Minister Abdul Rahim Malhas

Wednesday said that 47 cases

of hepatitis have appeared

lately in the town of Sakih in

the Jerash district, but the

Health Ministry was taking

measures to deal with the

Blaming the disease on pol-

luted water, the minister said

that Sakih citizens had drawn

water from springs proved to be

in use for a very long time, but

some families drank from the

water and some persons became infected, said the minis-

ter, adding that some of the

But Dr. Malhas said the

virus was not serious and local

hospitals were dealing with all

the cases, and medical teams

were at work to contain the

cases were children.

Recorded Music

Generally Formal

These springs have not been

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47 hepatitis cases

all regions

Khaled Khreisha, district

governor of Jerash, reviewed

inaspeech the general health

situation in the Jerash district

and thanked the Ministry of

According to Farouk

Humud. director of the hospit-

als, plans are underway to

open a general surgery depart-

10 .11 .93

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Minister of Information Ma'an Abu Nowar Wednesday meets with K. Gregory, bead of

-the Russian Foreign Ministry Information and Press Section and other Russian officials (Petra photo)

emigration to occupied Palestine was continuing, but fewer people were leaving.

He attribtued the decline to the economic and social conditions in Israel, adding that a

reverse migration from Israel to Russia was now taking

ADC to press U.S. for funds to support rebuilding Palestine

reported in Jerash AMMAN (J.T.) — Arab Americans plan to press the the "same amount of financial Malhas, the Ministry of Health support the U.S. has been givasked the Ministry of Water ing to Israel for the past 40 and Irrigation to carry out a years" for the "rehuilding of sewerage project in Sakib to Palestine" and the "economic help solve the health problem revival of Jordan," the and promised a general health American-Arab Antieducation programme for the Discrimination Committee

(ADC) said in a press release. Earlier the health minister The ADC said that the comopened the 32-bed paediatric ward of Jerash Government mittee's founder, former U.S. senator James Abourezk and Hospital and said the Health ADC President Albert Mokhi-Ministry was striving to prober will begin a visit here on vide comprehensive services to Nov. 20 to "begin the first

phase of a two-part plan to voice those needs and obtain U.S. government to contribute . the U.S. financial support needed to turn the rebuilding of Palestine into a reality."

During the Nov. 20 meeting in Amman, ADC said, it plans to discuss with Jordanian and Palestinian leaders and activists "what ADC can, and plans to do at this stage," in light of U.S. President Bill Clinton's urging during a meeting with the group on Sept. 14 "to come up with ideas and specific projects to assist in the implementation of the peace

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Employment fund loans are restricted

AMMAN (Petra) - Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali Wednesday sent a circular to government departments reminding employees that they are banned from applying for loans from the Development and Employment Fund. Certain employees have been applying for such loans in violation of rules since only unemployed persons are allowed to obtain these loans, said the prime minister.

Lands departments reports collections down by 30%

AMMAN (Petra) — The Lands and Survey Department in October collected JD 4,361,503 in fees for registering real estate, according to Ali Gharaibeh, the department director. He said that the figure was 30 per cent less than in September and down by two per cent in contrast with revenues collected in October 1992. Mr. Gharaibeh said that the department collected a total of JD 50,460,632 in the first 10 months of the year registering an increase of 14 per cent over the amount collected in the same period of last year.

Solar energy conference to start Nov.21

AMMAN (Petra) - A five-day Arab international conference will start in Amman on Nov. 21 to tackle solar energy related issues, according to an announcement by the Higher Council for Science and Technology (HCST). A total of 100 working papers on solar and alternative sources of energy such as wind power and their applications will be discussed. The meeting, the fourth of its kind to be held in Amman, is organised by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) in cooperation with the Jordan Engineers Association. Participants will come from 35 Arah and foreign countries.

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- A Exhibition of recent paintings by artist Ammar Khammash nt Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing, the permanent
- ☆ Art exhibition by a group of artists at Orfali Art Gallery
- Art exhibition by artist Mustafa Ali at Baladna Art Gallery. Art exhibition by artist Sa'di Al Ka'bi at Alia Art Gallery
- Cultural Centre.
- Art exhibition by artist Mohammad Abu Zralq entitled "Views" at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ☆ The Petra Exhibition a presentation of the activities of Jordanian and international institutions involved in archaeological, ethnographic and environmental research in the Petra region at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Jordan Contractors Association Building (near the American Embassy in Abdoun) 10:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

- ☆ Video film on art in English entitled "Cezanne" at Darat Al Funun of the Abdut Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh at 5:00 p.m.
- ☆ Film entitled "The Brothers Karamazo" at the American



day meets with Information Minister Ma'an

meet this requirement, Dr.

Majali urges official media to present

'correct and objective information'

Majali added. Thanking the ministry officials for their continued and dedicated efforts, the prime minister reiterated the govern-

of German Ambassador to

Jordan Heinrich Reiners.

discussed existing coopera-

tion between the German

well as possibilties for fu-

Kinkel later visited the

Nuzha Social Community

Development Centre

which was established by

OAF and is run by the

Jordanian Save the Chil-

dren Federation. The cen-

tre includes a health clinic.

kindergarten, children's

club and training and

education programmes for

women (Petra photo)

ment's policy of enhancing the concept of decentralisation and partnership in the decision making process.

the minister of information reviewed preparations on the 8 polls as a national duty.

part of his ministry and its... various departments to cover the elections. He referred to. the ongoing policy of urging.

government and QAF, as ture cooperation. Mrs.

WHAT'S GOING ON

- exhibition (Saturday-Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)
- (telephone 643251/2).
- (9:30-13:30 and 1500-1800). Art exhibition by artist Mohammad Al Jaloos at the French

- ☆ Bani Hamida fall exhibition: "Autumn Leaves" at the

FILMS

- ☆ Film entitled "Westworld" at the American Center at 3:00
- Center at 6:00 p.m. (150 minutes).

The National Music Conservatory / Noor Al Hussein Foundation

Two Recitals for Italian Week

Piano Recital Maestro Alberto Pomeranz

Friday, 5 November 1993, 7:30 pm. Ticket price: JD 10 Ballroom of the inter - Continental Hotel

Featuring pieces by Liszt, Rossini, Mussorgsky and others

Opera Recital Mario Boccardo (Bartione) and Barbara Cattabiani (Piano)

Ticket Price: JD 30 (includes fashion show and dinner) Ballroom of the Inter - Continental Hotel Featuring arias by Bellini, Puccini,

Saturday, 6 November 1993, 8:00 pm.

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Campanile, Le Firme Scarpa, Venefir. Tickets available from : Hotel Inter - Continental, Tel. 641361

National Music Conservatory, Tel. 687620

المازًا من الأحل

Editor-in-Chief: GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

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Elections enrich democratisation

ON MONDAY Jordanians will head to the polls to choose their future representatives in Parliament. There has already been a great deal of speculation about which candidates will lead in the general elections. The one-person, one-vote formula is expected to take its toll on the political parties as well as individuals who gained strength in 1989. Parties and candidates now rely on different factors than those of 1989 to win the confidence and support of their constituencies for traditional ties have overwhelmed modern forms of association that bind voters and their future spokespersons in the Lower House of Parliament.

We know already the basis that led to the results of the last parliamentary elections. Next week we will also know the outcome of the new elections based on the new formula and we will have another appraisal of the elections.

While it is premature to judge the new situation as of now, it is certain that the outcome will bring with its new realities. In the process, Jordan will have learned a lot from both 1989 and 1993 experiences and will be able to use the results to perfect the process for conducting elections in the future on a more equitable and democratic basis.

What could tip the balance one way or another in the selection of the best ways to conduct elections will be the standard and performance of the new Lower House of Parliament. Will the new deputies be better educated, more enlightened and more responsive to the needs and aspirations of the people? We already know something about the aspirant deputies. We have seen most of them and read their CVs. Some of them made their thoughts and positions loud and clear, while others kept them to themselves. Sifting the able from the disable should not be a difficult task once Parliament is convened. On the political parties' level, there is no doubt that the results of the upcoming elections would determine their future fortunes. The end result could be the streamlining of political parties in a way that could better serve the contemporary needs of society.

There will come a time also when the newlyelected Parliament will have to pronounce itself not only on the PLO-Israeli peace deal but also on the conduct of Israeli-Jordanian negotiations. How members of the House would perform on such difficult tasks that call for sophistication and vision is something that we are all waiting to see.

But that is not all. The domestic scene is full of issues that await resolution, ranging from education to taxation. The old Parliament busied itself with external subjects at the expense of many local topics, such as traffic, water and environment. Jordanians obviously look for representatives who will devote more attention to their woes. The economic situation will surely be high on people's mind. Whether it will attract the attention of their elected officials or not is something that will be clarified soon enough when the House tackles the 1994 budget.

So there is a great deal awaiting us and our new parliamentarians. At the end, our democratic traditions will be that much more enriched.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL DUSTOUR daily Wednesday warned that the Israeli procrastinations and adamant stands displayed at the talks with the Palestinians in Taba could undermine the whole peace process. The Israelis are now fullowing in their talks with the Palestinians a policy similar to that adopted in their negotiations with Arab parties in Washington and which so far resulted in no progress, said the daily. The Israelis seem to have adhered to the same old strategies which have proved futile and did not achieve any peace with any Arab party, continued the paper. In a further manifestation of its adamant position, said the paper the Israeli government is dragging its feet when it comes to releasing Palestinian prisoners, thus complicating matters and blocking the way for an agreement on steps to be taken towards the implementation of the Palestinian self-rule deal agreed on in September, added the paper. Faced with Israel's intransigence, the Palestinian negotiators had no alternative but to suspend the talks in Taba, the paper added. Of course the difficulties at Taba reflect the complexity of the situation and the fact that the talks are facing serious difficulties, it said. But should this situation be allowed to continue, concluded the daily, there is real concern that the obstacles might lead to the strengthening of the opposition on both sides who could well abort the whole

A COLUMNIST in Al Ra'i daily urged men and women to vote for women candidates in the Nov. 8 elections. Mona Zawaideli said that men entrust women with their children. their homes and their various properties and they should trust women to serve as representatives of the public and public interest in Parliament. Women form half of the society in Jordan, have equal rights with men and hold very important public positions, therefore, they ought to be trusted with matters of public interest and concern, said the writer. One, added the writer, can really realise the sufferings and the heavy hurdens of women except women. She said that in the atmosphere of democracy and freedom. Jordanians should allow women access to Parliament.

rban expansion a blessing and a curse

There is no doubt that since the mid-seventies in particular our society has made, and is still making, a noticeably positive impact on the en-vironment, especially within town and city limits. Our towns and cities have for the most part become more spread out. spacious, and far better organised.

The downtown area in Amman is a living example of the happy change. Up until the late seventies, it was heavily crowded, remarkably disorganised and decidedly ugly and dirty. Virtually everyone who wanted to go from one section of the city to another or who wished to do some shopping had to pass through the downtown area. thus creating unnecessary human and traffic congestion. Only a person who knew the capital's centre well then can truly appreciate what it was really like. It used to take a motorist, especially during the unbearable rush hours. forty minutes or more to get out of an area which was no more than a square mile, Clearly, a person without a car had a tougher time.

The congestion and overcrowding were detrimental not only because they caused serious delays and inflicted psychological torture on people passing through or com-muting daily, but also be-

By Dr. Ahmad Y. Majdoubeh cause they polluted the atmosphere and threatened people's physical health. In summer there was, as a result of traffic jams, a great deal of smog, fumes and odors of all kinds, noise and heat. The streets and alleys were very narrow, garbage was every-where and aside from a couple of decent cafes there was no place to sit.

People who visited European. American and other more fortunate regions then brought back (they still do] fairy-tale accounts of their spaciousness, cleanliness and beauty. We dreamt of streets with garbage cans, of highways. bridges and tunnels, of green alleys, and of multistorey parking lots. We fantasised about gardens, public parks. playgrounds, outdoor cafes with elegant waiters and waitresses and fancy restaurants. There was only one popular "park" in Amman. the tiny garden in Jabal Al Waybdeh.

Today, the situation is dramatically different. You do not have to pass through or go shopping downtown, and if you do it is a pleasure. The congestion, even after the unexpected return of the returnees (from Kuwait) is significantly less annoying. The streets are cleaner and the landscape is greener. In fact. thanks to both the known and contributed to its remarkable development. Jordan, despite its limited resources and iis humble geographic architectural grandeur (we have no Nile, no Omayyad Mosque, etc.), takes pride in its healthier and more aesthetically appealing towns and cities. Admittedly, they are neither London nor Paris. but they are certainly cleaner and more attractive than their counterparts in many

neighbouring countries, Having said this, however. I wish to emphasise that the hattle for a better environment in the urban areas (and it is a battle indeed) is far from over. There are still many pressing problems to take care of and many improvements to earry out. some of which cannot be delaved any longer. I shall raise one such problem, which is ironically a result of the attempt to get rid of overcrowding and eongestionnumely the somewhat haphazard. misguided and destructive expansion of our towns and cities. It is a situation where a blessing turns into a

Let's take the outskirts of Irbid as an example. People who are familiar with the recent geographic history of the city (aptly named the Bride of the North) still fondly remember not only the immense size of the plains

surrounding it but also their beauty and appeal. Formerly, the Horan Plains rose to great prominence in the history of Greater Syria: they not only fed millions of people but were a source of pleasure and poetic inspira-tion. Today, what remains of them is still fertile and beautiful. However, they are being speedily swallowed up and are fast disappearing under the stretching suburbs, to the

east, west, north and south.

Of course. I am not against the growth of our urban areas. Far from it, for as has just been illustrated in the Amman downtown story, I am all for it. Such growth, taking into account both the compelling natural and extraordinary factors behind population increase. is a must. We need to spread out and feel comfortable. And we thank God our citizens. the rich as well as the poor. can still manage to buy a piece of land and build a house. This is a privilege we highly appreciate. What I am against, however, is the arbitrariness, ruthlessness and chaos of this growth, as well as (more importantly) the huge consumption of physical

I can cite countless specific cases. One interesting and highly illustrative case is that of a girls' school built some decades ago in the middle of the plain stretching between Irhid and Al Husn. We can think of at least four objections to the site. First, geologically, it is a had choice. It is widely known, even to a lay-man like myself, that a house huilt on a hill is safer and firmer than one built on flat brown soil. A few years ago, a couple of buildings at Yarmouk University, which was itself erected inside an olive orchard, almost totally collapsed. Second, the school is located next to the Ammani Irbid main highway. Clearly. the highway is a constant hazard to those students who have to cross it daily and it is a major source of air pollu-tion and disturbance. Third the sizeable area, the school occupies is at the expense of a very fertile piece of land. Why should we go through the laborious process of re-elaiming remote regions in

hand? Naturally, the school attracted several inhabitants. real estate investors, restaurants, etc. A huge community college campus has just been completed. In a couple of years, the whole plain will vanish. This same story is repeated in nearly every town and city in the

the desert, wasting effort, money and water, when we have the best arable land at

My main objection, fourth-

ly, is based on aesthetic grounds. We need space for our own psychological health. Most people I have talked to in Irhid regret more than anything else the loss uf the beauty of the outskirts. A human being is not only a stomach, we want mure from our plains and fields than wheat hread, lentil soup or "muloukhia. Beauty is a need, and Ralph Waldo Emerson is right when he calls it a "nobler want of man." This is specially true in the urban areas where the natural scene functions to release the tension and ease the pressure. During the week people cannot afford to go the Salt mountains. Ailoun, the Dea Sea or even the Amman National Park. They want a nice landscape a lot closer. And frankly speaking, most of the gardens in our cities are too small and

Let our towns and cities expand, but let the expansion be carefully planned. More importantly, let's allocate more space to public parks and gardens within or adjacent to city and town limits. We need to breathe fresh air,

The writer is an associate professor of American literature in the English Department at Yarmouk University. Irbid. He contributed this article to the Jordan Times.

Balqa has to grapple with a combination of many influences

(Continued from page 1)

a major support force for any candidate other than Mr. Zoubi and Dr. Bashir,

The Jordan Valley is divided into two distinct areas: North Shuneh and South Shuneh. The north district habitually supported, or at least bartered votes with, candidates in a bloc-voting electoral system, hut this time around, many of its citizens will support indigenous candidates, some of whom are frontrunners for the Muslim seats, including an IAF candidate, Nael Zeidan Masalha.

Mr. Masalhas observers believe, although a strong contender for the seat, has less chances of winning than the other three official IAF candidates in the Balga dis-

The southern Ghor area is dominated by the Adwan tribe, which has five candidates among its members. Observers believe that none of them is a frontrunner in the race but leave possibilities opeo for former Deputy Sultan Majed Al Adwao.

In the city of Salt itself (known also as casba) three independent tribal-based candidates are said to be in . good standing for Nov. 8. They are: Abdullah Ensour. Abdul Halim Hyassat and Hasahem Dabbas. Dr. Ensour, who served as Balga deputy in the 11th Parliament, is doing well with his own family, one of the bigest in the city, "and has a few

hiding places from which be will fish out sufficient votes on polling day," as an obser-

ver put it.

Although another member of the family, Khalid Ensour. is also running, very few ex-pect that it will be a difficult entry onto the winning ticket for Mr. Ensour, who in 1989 won the highest votes with 19,609 on a platform of strong opposition to former Prime Minister Zeid Rifai and combatting official cor-

ruption.

Dr. Hiyassat, a general practitioner who contested the race in 1989 hut could only win 4,717 votes, is expected to fare better in 1993, having apparently secured the support of his clan which is also one of the hig families of Salt.

Dr. Hiyassat's chance of winning, many observers believe, depends largely on the level of his family's commitment to vote in his favour and the number of votes which he could attract from elsewhere.

Hashem Dahbas, given a preferential rating by most analysts and observers. appears to depend heavily on different sources for his voter. Other than his tribal base, estimated at 1,200 votes, he is expected to gain some votes from each of the other tribes in the city including the big families of Arabiyat, Bazabzeh and Al Jaza-

The only leftist who stands a chance of winning in the

race in the Balga district is Dr. Mustafa Shneikat, a communist-backed contender who apparently also enjoys tribal support. Analysts add that Dr. Shneikat also commands respect of the youth and the appreciation of the patients he treats at his clinic in Deir Alla, which has 13,755 votes that he is expected to share largely with Ali Shatti, another contender who apparently is considered by analysts as a well-placed candidate.

The IAF will have to play against all these odds and overcome serious dissent among its ranks in the Balqa district. It has officially fielded four candidates for this district's race, one of whom, Dr. Oweidah of Baoaa Camp, is a very strong contender. Should Dr. Oweidah win

as expected, the question will be whether the other three IAF candidates will also win. lose or a combination of both. They are Abdul Latif Arahiyat, Ibrahim Massoud Al Kbreissat and Mr. Masalha. Perhaps the Balga district demonstrates more closely than any other in the Kingdom the predicament the front has found itself in after announcing the names of 36 candidates for the 1993 elections, a staggering figure which the front cannot hope to push to Parliament under the one-person, one-vote formula.

The front's district office. in its preliminary elections for choosing candidates, only

selected three candidates for this race which included Dr. Arahiyat, Dr. Oweideh and Mr. Masalha and excluded Mr. Khreissat from the race, sources told the Jordan Times.

Mr. Khreissat, however, insisted on contesting the polls along with another candidate. Abdullah Ali Riyalat, who is also running for elections but on an independent Islamist platform. According to the sources,

Mr. Khreissat was later imposed on the district by the head office of the IAF in Amman, but Mr. Riyalat was excluded. This had led to outright

competition hetween Dr. Arabiyat, a former speaker of the House, on the one hand, and Mr. Khreissat (former speaker for the parliamentary bloc of the Brotherhood) and Mr. Rivalat on the other - a struggle that is hurting Mr. Arabiyat's standing among the Baqaa camp voters and independent Islamists.

Most analysts believe that the front will put its weight heavily behind Mr. Arabiyat on polling day in a bid to ensure his success, paying less attention in the process to supporting the other candidates. Mr. Riyalat, who has been

using his position as an imam in a mosque to lash out at the front's strategy, according to city sources, has a very small chance of reaching Parliament.

Behind the numbers and

the calculations of tribes, parties, clans and the camp, the people of the Balqa district have an array of grievances and complaints that have not found their way to the ban-ners of candidates in this campaign.
What is evident, in fact, is

that most candidates are aiming to remind the voters of their names, leaving promises and slogans out of huge banners, some of which have been hung in such a way that they could he seeo from kilometres away.

But voters appear to be ready to put their grievances aside for another four-year term of Parliament to ensure that their tribe or clan finds its way to a seat under the dome and hy extension to national recogn

The only exception to this rule will be in the choice of a candidate for the Christian seat which is about the only easy guess in the Balqa district elections. The servicesstarved among the citizens of Balqa will cast a strong vote of confidence for Samir Kawar, who is vying for one of the two Christian seats contested by another three Christians, with unanimous expectations that former Deputy Fawzi Shaker Tuaimeh will be reelected. Mr. Kawar is applauded by citizens for serving his area as a cabinet minister - he served as minister of water and irrigation - who had came under beavy criticism for using his post exactly to ensure reelec-

Palestinians indifferent

(Continued from page 1) the majority of Israelis reject

He said he feared that Mr. Olmert's victory would lead to "provocations, risking violence between Israelis and Palestinians and a resurgence of colonisation."

Only five per cent of Jerualem's hudget was allocated to the eastern sector, be complained.

Hosni Hassan, a grocer, said the result "will not alter our situation at all."

"At least with Likud there will be no surprises. We know what to expect. With Teddy Kollek we were living in uncertainty," Mr. Hassan said.

Mr. Olmert said Wednesday would probably give settlers a permit for further construction in East Jerusalem and would support Jews living in

any part of the city. Jewish settler leaders said they were confident the Hawkish Olmert would be their ally in a campaign to build Jewish hridgeheads throughout East Jerusalem and to cement Israeli control over the Holy

Just hours after heing elected, the 48-year-old lawyer declared his support for Jewish settlement in Arah neighbourhoods.

"Every Jew can purchase property anywhere in Jerusalem and anywhere in the land of Israel and I don't conceive of acting otherwise," Mr. Olmert said in an Israel Radio interview.

Germany praises Jordan, pledges backing PLO pledges security in Gaza to ensure the security of relief (Continued from page 1)

(Continued from page 1) Asked whether Germany

was considering any further debt relief to Jordan, which owes it around DM 70 million (about JD 32 million), Mr.Kinkel said the overall German contribution to the Kingdom's debt relief was DM 95 million (about JD 42 million). He did not elaborte. No immediate explanation of the figure, was available.

"We are more than willing to belp Jordan in the framework and the Paris Club" of creditor governments, said Mr. Kinkel, who also held talks with Prime Minister Abdul Salam Majali, Planning Minister Ziad Fariz, Finance Minister Sami Gammoh and Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Saced Nabulsi. "We find Jordan as the most indebted country," he

The minister, paying the third visit to the Middle East after assuming office 18 months ago, said the problems Jordan faced as a result of its adherence to the international sanctions against Iraq and the enforcement of the embargo on Aqaba-bound shipping were also discussed during his ralks here.

"I would not like to go into the details" of the discussions in this regard, said Mr. Kinkel, who also visited the Royal Scientific Society (RSS).

The German minister voiced appreciation of the democrtisation process under way in Jordan and said during his talks here he found the Jotdanian government confident that the outcome of the Nov. 8 general elections would be "satisfac-

Noting that his country had a two-million-strong Muslim population, 1.8 million of them Turks, Mr. Kinkel said he fully supported a call by Prince Hassan for an inter-faith dialogue and that Jordan and Germany would cooperate to advance the proposal.

On a bilateral level, Germany will respond positively to a Jordanian request for German expertise in improving the education system and training techniques, he said.

The German minister, who left for home Wednesday evening, said his political discussions here dealt with the Israel-PLO accord, the Jordanian-Israeli agenda for peace talks and the apparent deadlock in the Syrian and Lebanese tracks of negotiations with Israel. In his two earlier trips to the Middle East, Mr. Kinkel vi-

sited Israel, Tunisia, Syria and Egypt.
The topics he discussed during bis several-hour visit to Jordan after arriving from Saudi Arabia also included the regional situation, Iran, Iraq and conflicts in Somalia and

Bosnia as well as the "need to

strengthen" the United Na-

He said that during his sbort, hut worthwhile and fruitful talks" here, Jordan supported proposals that Germany assume a permanent seat in the U.N. Security Council. Mr. Kinkel said his govern-

ment was doing the best it can

efforts to Somalia within the constitutional constraints imposed on it.

On Bosnia, he said Germanay felt that a solution to the problem of former Yugoslavia sbould oot come at the expense of the weak party - that s the Muslims." He called on all parties to

"return to the negotiating table," noting that with the onset of winter, the plight of people displaced from their bomes would get worse.

He said Germany appreci-ated Jordan's contribution of up to 2,000 servicemen to the U.N. peace-keeping force in Noong that the Maastricht Treaty on European union

took effect Monday, Mr. Kinkel said King Hussein "acknow-ledged that it was the first step" towards a comprehensive European Community approach to various issues. The community wants to deal with the Middle East peace process "in a special way," Mr. Kinkel said.

He rejected a suggestion that Germany and the U.S. had serious differences in approach to Iran after the recent visit to Germany of the Iranian minister of intelligence, triggering protests from Washington and London. Mr. Kinkel described the difference as only "shades" and said Germany was involved in a "critical dialogue" with Iran in

view of that country's "politieal weight" in the Gulf region.
"We don't believe that Iran should be isolated," he said.

PLO leader since the signing of the peace agreement with Israel, Mr. Clinton thanked Mr. Arafat for his role and affirmed U.S. support for the Middle East peace process.

"We should all work to fulfill our pledge to achieve peace for all the peoples in the Mid-dle East," WAFA quoted Mr. Clinton as telling Mr. Arafat in an Arabie version of the mes-

The agency did not give further details. It said a similar telegram was sent to Mr. Ara-fat Wednesday by Secretary of State Warren Christopher. PLO sources said both Mr.

Clinton and Mr. Christopber urged Mr. Arafat to continue discussions with the Israelis. Sources in Taba said what brought the break in the Taba talks was that Israel's plan to protect Gaza's Jewish settlers would have Israeli soldiers travelling the strip's main roads, leaving them to inter-fere in Palestinians' lives.

Dr. Shaath said Palestinians could protect the settlers without Israeli soldiers, adding that he expected United Nations or other multinational troops to augment a Palestinian security force of some 10,000 men. "We are prepared to guaran-

tee full security to everyone in the Gaza Strip through a capable and well-equipped Palesti-nian peace force." Dr. Shaath

Dr. Shaath, who was to travel to Tunis to consult with Mr. Arafat, gave no details on possible use of foreign troops

linked to an Israeli-Palestinian plan or whether the idea was approved by Israel.

He said Israel's plan, introduced at Taba, indicated the Jewish state wanted merely to shift the location of its troops in Gaza rather than remove

"The plan that was presented to us reallay amounts to reoccupation, not redeployment, not withdrawal," Dr. Shaath told Israel's army radio. "It is a very limited redeployment." Ibrahim Mattar, an official

in the PLO delegation, said Israel "must choose" between peace and maintaining the Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

PLO delegates accused Israel of wanding to carve up the Gaza Strip into a "series of islands" under a plan to encamp troops in three fortified areas of settlement. In Syria, the government daily Tishrin on Wednesday

renewed the country's crincism of the autonomy deal. Those who believed in the pacifist intentions of Israel have received a shock and realised they were deluding them-

it said, "Israel has always refused to withdraw from occupied territories," Mr. Rahin pledged to forge ahead with the peace process Wednesday despite losing con-trol of Jerusalem after 45 years amid a stinging defeat in local

elections. "I will relent in our efforts for peace, even if the condinons are more difficult," Mr. Rahin said as the results unexpectedly showed major rightwing gains in Tuesday's polis (See separate story). .

"I was hoping for a clear

message in favour of the peace process and I cannot say I am satisfied." Unfortunately it was Mr. Rabin himself who turned the

town hall elections into a test for his peace policy. Likud Party leader Benjamin Netanyahu seized on the results as a boost for his call for

early elections over the PLO autonomy deal. These results prove that on the streets the Likud is the most popular party in Israel," Mr. Netanyahu said.

A leading Palestinian wanted by Israel turned himself in Wednesday, saying he hoped the surrender would help the PLO-Israel peace deal.

Israeli soldiers briefly interviewed Hisham Joudeh, who was on their most wanted list for 18 months, and let him go. Mr. Joudeh, 28, a commander of Fateh, was escorted by several Fateh leaders when he surrendered at Israeli military headquarters in the occupied

Gaza Strip rown of Rafah. Several hundred Palestinians accompanied Mr. Joudeh on a march from his horge in Rafah

refugee camp.
"I surrender in accordance with the ceasefire agreement to allow the peace efforts to succeed." Mr. Joudeh told repor-

Afterwards he said israeli interrogators asked him if he had been involved in killing

Weekender

Fellini's fascination for women

By Marie-Therese Delboulbes Agence France Presse

PARIS — Federico Fellini, the Italian film director who died in Rome Sunday, once said: "I would never have gone into films if I had not been hopelessly in love with

His work is shot through with images of harridans and mechinical dolls. female giants and dwarves, whores and sad clowns, and occasionally a flash of purity to redeem sin.

"I am saturated with images of women," said Fellini, who was married for the past 50 years to the uncomplaining Giuletta Masina:

"I believe it is possible to love three women at the same time," he said. In City Of Women, a film

that featured 2,600 women, he revealed his obsessions. his fears and his fantasies. He said of it: "I have the impression that all my films are about women. I feel

feel good when I am with . "They are myth, mystery, otherness, fascination, they are the desire to know them. Women are every-

completely at their mercy, I

thing. cinema itself, plunged into a film about a man.' TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT

darkness, with the womb. He consulted feminists before making City Of Women in 1980, an allegory

in which Snaporaz, played by Marcello Mastroianni, has a nightmare.

The voyage of his subconscious takes him by turns to a feminist conference where delegates proclaim that the menopause is a male invention, then to a museum to the Phallus, the home of an insatiable lecher.

Mastroianni's character is a stand-in for Fellini himself. He is assaulted, raped, drowned.

A woman forces him to get on a motorbike, another makes him roller-skate, a third shows him the attributes of her six husbands.

The feminists, some of whom starred in the film, were upset by the images of monstrous, castrating ogres that they saw.

Fellini's disingenuous re-ply was: "How could I think of making a film about women? It's absurd. How could I think of making a film about something about which I know nothing. It's He once compared the not a film about women, it's

It was not the first time he had been accused of misogyny, a charge levelled at him after he made Casanova in 1976.

The fantasies that peopled his films helped him work through his inhibi-

Casanova holds a mirror up to a loveless world where Don Juan takes his pleasure with a mechanical doll.

In City Of Women, the automation gives way to a giant blow-up doll. In his 1973 film Satyricon, the boy protagonist Titta is fascinated by the nipples of the giant clerk, but it is a dwarfish nun who persuades his mad uncle Theo to come down from the tree where he has been hollering for a

But Fellini's world of women is not solely a land of freaks. The sight of Anita Ekberg bathing in the Trevi Fountain in his 1960 masterpiece La Dolce Vita is etched into the memory of filmgoers.

"For me too, that film and its image are inextric-ably linked with Anita," Fellini said 25 years later. Other beautiful women

made a lasting impression - Anouk Aimee, for one, and Magali Noel, the sym-.



The late Italian film director Frederico Fellini is seen with his nes Film Festival on Oct. 18,

wife Giuletta Massina at the Can-1993 (AFP photo)

bol of sensuality in Amarcord and Satyricon.

the decadence, the Roman the drowned corpse of a Catholic Fellini set the sailor on a beach at the end Counterpoised against smile of a young girl against of La Dolce Vita.

As fires burn, movie cameras keep rolling

By Matt Spetalnick Reuter

LOS ANGELES - Hollywood has greeted the firestorm raging at its doorstep the way it deals with most major disasters - by making a movie out of it.

When brush fires spread to the hills north of Los Angeles, a crew shooting. the low-budget western Cheyenne Warrior decided it was the perfect chance to film the wagon train fire they needed for the film.

Cameras focused on a few hot spots to get the shots they wanted before miniscries about the 1.75 crew members joined local residents fleeing the Simi ran earlier this year.

Valley area, production mañagers said.

In downtown Los Angeles, the crew of the ABC Television series NYPD Blue had no com-. plaints about the fine gray ash that showered their filming location. Producers said it would make it look more like New York, the actual setting for the programme. -:....

Hollywood insiders said the \$500 million conflagration that leveled entire neighbourhoods, some with multistory mansions, was all but certain to end up as a made-for-TV movie. A billion Oakland fire of 1991

While some in the nation's entertainment capital found a way to make the best of a bad situation, others felt the heat all too

personally. Country music star Dwight Yoakam's ranch in the Santa Monica Mountains was burned to the ground. "You just can't imagine, you can't fathom it, he said sadly.

An advancing fire chased Jack Nicholson from his Malibu Beach house, but it

was spared any damage. Nearly 50 acres (20 hectares) of ranchland surrounding actor Tom Selleck's Hidden Valley ranch were destroyed, and he rushed to help neighbours

move their horses out of harm's way. Caretakers on actor Robert Wagner's spread had to evacuate livestock.

Ranches in the area belonging to Sophia Loren and Sylvester Stallone were threatened before winds caused advancing fires to change direction.

A lioness and a leopard at

the Animal Actors of Hollywood compound in the Santa Monica Mountains were shot to death when trainers were unable to evacuate the big cats as fire raced toward, the area, officials said.

trainer, told the Los Angeles Daily News the lioness was too infirm to transport and the leopard was too dangerous. He said "it was an ethical choice" to kill the cats rather than leave them to suffer in the

The menagerie of about 100 animals — including dogs, birds and other big cats used in Hollywood pro-ductions — was moved safe-ly before fires humed within yards of the compound.

Tony Duquette, a 79year-old Tony Award-winning artist, lost many of his own works plus a collection of folk art and Hollywood memorabilia when his ranch Mark Harden, a 15-year , near Malibu went up in

flames. Since the fires erupted, the syndicated television show Entertainment Tonight has devoted a portion of its broadcast to how the stars have fared.

Even though southern California is where most of the filming is done in the United States, only a few productions were affected.

Filming was interrupted on the more remote beaches and in the rugged canyons around Malibu, the California Film Commission said. One of the lucky few to get through before fires forced the shutdown Wednesday was the crew of Tammy And The Teen-Age T-Rex. They filmed until officials forced them out.

Anger rises against uncovered women on magazine covers

By Brian Murphy The Associated Press ROME — For a news story. about political kickbacks, a magazine cover shows a naked woman sprinkled with banknotes. An antismoking article features a topless woman puffing a

Italy's major news magazines are as well known for the flesh they expose as the stories they uncover. Bare breasts regularly appear on the covers as an X-rated invitation to subjects as lurid as sex clubs or as light

as summer vacations. But after years of being served cheesecake photos, some people are getting fed

A women's group has started a campaign to draw. attention to what they call the gratuitous use of naked women, and others including the Vatican and a presidential commission have joined in the criticism.

The protests are probably not enough to convince editors to tone down their covers in the hyper-competitive Italian magazine market. where many publications live or die on newsstand

But the rumblings suggest the covers could be pushing the boundaries of public tolerance — even given Italy's easygoing attitudes that allow nudity on prime-time television and porn stars to

become successful politi-"The weekly magazines

use naked women only to sell more. In fact, the covers rarely correspond with the magazine's contents. This is a form of violence, said Gabriele Moscatelli, vice president of Pink Telephone, a women's group that had.' d the opposition to the racy covers.

The organisation is now conducting a survey of wellknown Italian: men on their feelings about the covers of the major news magazines - Panorama, L'Espresso and L'Europeo, which each have a predominately male readership.

An earlier Pink Tele-

phone report said about 30 per cent of the magazine covers since 199I showed a naked or semi-clad woman.

Other powerful voices have spoken out against the covers, giving the issue just the hint of an Americanstyle political correctness showdown. After a 31-nation Euro-

pean conference on women's rights last week, the Vatican denounced the use of "women as objects" in the mass media, saying it's "sometimes difficult to distinguish advertising from pornography." A presidential commis-

sion on gender relations issued a statement supporting the Vatican and decrying the "commercialisation of the female body." Some newspaper commentators have joined the cla-

The magazines, however. quickly point out that Italian television offers just as much skin.

"At 8 o'clock there are naked women running around saying, 'look how good this soap is." said Antonangelo Pinna, a top editor at L'Espresso. "This is Italy.

"We need to be noticed on the newsstand. It's a fact: An attractive woman wearing little clothes catches the eye."

One cover showed a topless woman with blue-tinted

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skin and spiked hair holding a photo of Umberto Bossi. head of the Northern League political party.

L'Espresso's Oct. 29 issue featured actress Sharon Stone smoking a cigar and cupping and breasts

with her hand Such photos iot unсоттоп оп opean newsstands, bu · seems to be where the pariest calls

are loudest at the moment. "Sure, I'm offended by

seeing naked women on the magazine covers," said Juliet Piscino as she purchased a newspaper in Rome. "But do I think they will change them because it bothers women? The answer is no."

Designer drugs fuel Spanish 'Bacalao Route'

By Tracey Ober Reuter

MADRID - Every Friday night, the highway from Madrid to Valencia, known as the "Bacalao Route", is jammed with youngsters out for adventure.

They party continuously until early Monday morning, then make the 350 kilometres journey home, exhausted, but their determination to have a good time undiminished.

Every big city has its own version of "Bacalao", a word once associated with a Spanish fish dish but latterly linked with the mind-numbing music played at discos.

The government is slowly realising that the "rave" parties of Britain and the United States have arrived in Spain. To combat the problem this summer, the Civil Guard erected roadblocks outside the popular "Bacalao" sites.

Most "Bacalao" discotheques are on the outskirts of cities, accessible only by car. Parking lots are almost as popular as the discos and cars are a haven for sex and drugs.

Spain's Toxology Institute estimates that 58.4 per cent of car accidents last year were directly related to drugs or alcohol and most involved young people.

Designer drugs such as ecstasy are just catching on in the frenetic night life of the Spanish teenager, their popularity fuelled by peer pressure.

The pulsating theme song of the "Bacalao Route" proclaims "exta si, exta no" — a reference to August, they dismantled a

the drug.
"At first I was scared to

try 'X', but then everyone was saying how easy it was," said Javier. a 21-yearold student in Madrid. He and some friends shared an ecstasy tablet one Friday night and found that life seemed much more glamorous.

"I was like another person, I was sexy and funny," Javier says. "The girls wanted to dance with me." He takes it when he can

afford it - street value is 5,000 pesetas (\$38) a pill or takes "speed" (amphetamines) or inhales the legal vasodilator known as "rush" in the United States

and "poper" in Spain. Police seized 45,000 ecstasy pills last year, twice what they found in 1991. In

synthetic drug factory pro-ducing 500 pills an hour. Large amounts of cocaine

are still seized, as well as Spain's most widely used drug, heroin, but its use is waning. "In certain sectors, I'm

talking about young people, ecstasy use is definitely increasing," says Francisco Ramon of the government's National Drug Plan.

"Heroin has a very bad image now, partly because of AIDS. It's considered the drug of outsiders, not like cocaine, which is fashionable among establishment people.'

Cocaine use is still common in the poshest of Madrid's discos. But the "old guard" would find it hard to keep up with the 16 to 25-year-olds of the "Bacalao Route.

boom years, they have an apparent disregard for money and binge for days at a time. A typical weekend costs about 25,000 to 100,000 pesetas (\$190 to \$750) for petrol, drugs and alcohol.

Even though Spain's economy has faltered, parents still seem prepared to hand out money so their children can enjoy life in a way they never could. "I had to work when I

was young and I was always poor," says Amparo, a Seville mother of six. "My kids know a different world." She does not know what they do with the money, but gives them freedom as long as she does not see signs of abuse.

When the money runs low, the teenagers either cocaine and heroin at 17.

Offspring of Spain's share drugs or split one pill into fragments, a tendency that can lead to dealing.

"It's wild every night here," said one Valencian. He works as a bartender and sells ecstasy and speed to friends on the side.

He is 28 but looks 20 years older and wonders what else he can do. "I'm exhausted, but with this kind of dough, how can I stop?"

"There is a social climate of total permissiveness for drugs and alcohol," said Lino Salas of Proyecto Hombre (Project, Man).

He said teenagers start drinking as young as 12 and progress to hashish a year later. They start taking pharmacy and designer drugs at 16, followed by

Amman Cultural Pulse

An obsession for being the first

By Mohammad Masharga

There is a tendency among Jordanians these days to describe their cultural and artistic activities as being: "the first" to be introduced to the public.

For instance, they say in describing their work, "the first music festival," or "the first poetry seminar," or "the first short story symposium," as if Jordanians do not recognise cultural activities that occurred before. Indeed some writers have already voiced their criticism of this phenomenon and they say such tendency reflects a wrong idea that no artistic activity has ever taken place in Jordan before.

Some observers attribute this phenomenon to the fact that Jordan is now tasting democracy following a long period of martial law rule, thus opening the door for cultural and artistic works.

The Ministry of Culture has probably created the opportune climate for this situation, having set up more than 107 cultural and artistic forums around the Kingdom. These forums have encouraged the public to organise festivals and cultural seminars, and cooperate with the various societies.

Some of these societies have directed their attention towards political affairs, in addition to cultural issues, by issuing statements expressing their opposition to gov-ernment measures. One of these societies was the Jordanian Writers Association which has issued a statement voicing its opposition to the country's deal with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on econo-

mic restructuring programmes in the Kingdom. Other observers consider this phenomenon as a disregard to the achievements of earlier Jordanians who had indeed established the Jordanian artistic movement, presenting works in theatre and music, though they lacked the academic background for this kind of work.

The past decade witnessed the graduation of a large number of artists from universities and specialised institutes in the country and abroad. This new generation of artists has started to acquire a place within the artistic community and indeed started competing with

the old generation. However, the only festival that can rightly call itself the first of its kind was the first Jordanian Children's Festival which was due to have taken place on Oct. 1, 1993. The festival was called off because the Ministry of Coltrille decided that the text of songs and the tunes were not up to the standard for presenting at a festival. Head of the ministry's Children's Theatre Depart-

ment Wafaa Qusous says that the words of the children's songs, which number 23, were artistically and culturally unsuitable for the festival which was to be sponsored by the Ministry of Culture.

Ms. Qusous says that the majority of the songs presented to the organising committee were mostly stubbed with meaningless political wordings, totally ignoring the educational, cultural and other elements such as friendship, love and their values.

Ms. Qusous expresses her regret over the fact that Jordan still lacks proper children's songs writers who were expected to rise to the level of the new requirements of developments in our life.

"People who are overburdened with the hardships of life and are facing psychological pressures all the time are in need of joy, singing and a new outlook towards the future with optimism and love "Ms. Qusous says. Finally Ms. Qusous had to exchange the festival for a

workshop dealing with children's songs and music. The workshop was held at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) on Oct. 25 and 26 and was attended by academics and song-writers as well as musicians, educationalists and teachers from government and private schools.

The workshop divided the participants into two groups: One discussing the language and the literature of the songs for children at different age levels and the other tackling examples of songs that are being presented at schools in English and Arabic.

"The workshop was necessary to clarify a number of cultural concepts pertaining to the children's songs," Ms. Qusous notes. "The dialogue that took place manifested the dire need for greater efforts to be exerted in writing children's songs and that the tune should accompany the words in depth and in presenta-

One of the participants, Gazi Al Arabi, who is also a musician, said that those making music for children often forget or ignore the cultural side of music and tend to neglect the sense of imagination which music can create in the minds of the young.

The workshop witnessed a debate over the question of employing classical Arabic in children's songs. The traditionalists stressed that Arabic is the language of their fathers and ancestors and should be respected in its classical form. Others said that the aim of the song, regardless of its form or language, is primarily aimed at serving educational and cultural objectives and presenting values with much care for the classical language.

ART EXHIBITIONS

This week most art galleries are replete with exhibitions of all kinds.

Ahmad Ismail mounted an exhibition at the Jordan Inter. Continental Hotel Gallery presenting a rather unusual array of paintings on a variety of topics. Ismail has opted for Arab history and the tales of the One Thousand And One Nights.

Paula Brown, of the United States, presented her exhibition of black and white photographs depicting the Greco-Roman city of Jerash.

THOUGHTS FOR THIS WEEK

Fashion can be bought. Style one must possess - Edna Woolman Chase, American fashion editor (1877-1957).

The trouble with progress is that it goes forward, not

- Oscar Wilde, Irish-born playwright (1854-1900).

Amman Computer Expo-93

By Jean-Claude Eilas

The '93 edition of Amman Computer Expo that ended last week was a true image of what is happening in the world of Information Technology (IT) in general and Personal Computing (PC) in particular.

Organised on a yearly hasis by the Jordan Computer Society, the event has reached beyond the Kingdom's boundaries. Though representing a small fraction of the total number of visitors, guests from several Arah countries now come and enjoy a professionally prepared exhibition.

Upon entering the Expo hall, one is immediately attracted by the clear general layout, the pavilions pleasant design and colours, and the feeling that the event is an international one.

After the very positive first impression and having admired the "cosmetic" part of the show, one gets to the real work and starts the visit of each section.

Most companies this year seem to have emphasised the multi-media aspect of PCs. Multi-media is the combination of audio and video technologies, linked to optical discs. music synthesizers and video cameras, the whole setup being computer controlled. With the right equipment and the required know-how one can do wonders in terms of music production, video animation, virtual images and computer generated TV commercials. The creation, the editing and the synchronisation of the sound and the image become a producer's dream.

Another sector of innovation is the recent introduction of high resolution colour printers. So far, PC users had to do with either good quality, black and white printers or low quality colour ones, with the exception of Hewlett-Packard's PaintJet. On display at the Expo



were three interesting new models of quality colour printers, some of them using laser technology and others using thermal wax. The extreme difference in price however will make more than potential buyer stop and think. Prices range from JD 1,000 up to JD 12,000.

Apart from the multi-media solutions and the colour printers, there were no real hardware innovations presented. On the other hand, Microsoft's Windows for Workgroups and Windows NT really made the news. These two, recently introduced versions of the now famous Windows allow the connection of several PCs together, on a Local Area Network (LAN), so they can share information.

Except for a minority of very technically minded people, PC users now realise that software is what they need and not hardware. The latter is only here to run the former. If a washing machine could run Windows and the other programmes I use, I would gladly get rid of my computer.

Overall, the Amman Computer Expo is a well organised. very informative and professional show that should continue over the years and hopefully keep improving with time.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Mohammad A. Shuqair

of the state of th SAY IT IN ARABIC

SMOKING

— Will you bave a cigarette? Hal toreed sigarah? Na'am, arjook.

Yes, please.
I always smoke after my meals. Ana da'iman odakhin ba'dal-akl.

 It is an old babit of mine. Hiya adati minkadeem el-zaman. --- What a bad habit. Ya laha min ada sayy-i-a. Hal yomkinoka tarkoha?

Can't you leave off? Hai
I would be too nervous, if I did. Law fa'alto zalek, sirto asabiyan. Do you smoke much. Hal todakhin kathiran. - Not so much as you. Laysa kathiran mithlak.

Smoking is prohibited bere . Al-tad'kheen mamnoo hona. Stop smoking and save your health and wealth.

HUMOUR

Tawakaff anit'tadkhin wa ankiz si'hattak wa tharwatak.

ALI: Would you mind telling me bow you and your wife live amicably as this is something unusual to

AHMAD: That's simple. We act according to a set plan which bad been already accepted by both of us. My wife takes the important decisions. ALI: This seems very sensible, but what are the

important and unimportant decisions? AHMAD: Those which concern my coming back home, my pocket money and the places where I spend my bolidays are not impor-

Sitting upright on his sofa, Ahmad said: "As for the important decisions here is one living example: Can the U.N. compel Israel to implement the Security Council resolu-

* * * * *

 There happened a desolation between a blear-eyed man and his wife. The husband wanted to take the advice of one of his jurist friends in a bid to reconcile between them.

The judge said to her: "Abu Mohammad is a great sheikh, so please never care of his blearing eye, his slender legs, his weak knees or his stiff palms!

On hearing this, the blear-eyed man said: "Woe to you, you've revealed to her my defects which she had never known before."

* * * * *

• HELEN, sporting a new dress, strutted down the office building corridor with Portia. "How do you like my new outfit?" asked Helen with

"It's chic." "I'm going to be the envy of all the office women. Notice how they all look at me when I walk down the

"Yes, I notice."

"Even the men do a double take." "That's wonderful," commented Portia. "But I should tell you something.'

"What?" "Your slip is showing!!"

• MR. HARRIS: It seems our delivery boy is dis-MRS. HARRIS: Oh, you mustn't judge by appear-

MR. HARRIS: I'm not, I'm judging by disappearances!

BANK OF KNOWLEDGE

★ BENELUX ECONOMIC UNION: Economic treaty entered into (1958) by Belgium. Luxembourg and the No "erlands to promote economic integration among themselves through free movement of workers, capital, goods and services,

* * * * *

☆ GREEN REVOLUTION: Popular term referring mainly to the large increase achieved in GRAIN production in certain under-developed areas-especially India, Pakistan and the Philippines in the late 1960s. It was accompanied through the use of high-yielding hybrids, chemical fertilizers and new crop strategies and harvesting methods.

* * * * *

★ DIME NOVELS: Swift-moving thrillers, mainly about the American Revolution, the frontier period and the Civil War. First sold in 1860 for 10 cents, the books featured such real life adventures as Buffalo Bill, Ned Buntline and Deadwood Dick and such fictional characters as Nick Carter. The quality of the novels dropped in 1880s, and they were eclipsed by other series, pulp magazines and comic strips in

COOKING IS FUN

BATATA MAHSHI

STUFFED POTATOES

6 large potatoes 6 tablespoons white cheese

1/2 teaspoon nutmeg, salt and pepper I gill sour cream

3 tablespoons chives, chopped.

6 tablespoons minced cooked tongue

I tablespoon melted butter

METHOD

War rutatoes, ruh skins of each one with a little good :: "d bake at 400 degrees F. for I1/4 bours. Cool

Scoci out insides, taking great care not to break the shell-which for convenience sake should be about 1/2

Mix potato insides with sour cream, cheese, chives, nutmeg, tongue and seasoning and melted butter. Pile this mixture into shells, dot with butter and hrown quickly in a very bot oven (500 degrees F.) which should take about 10 minutes.

PUZZLES

FILLERS

Look carefully at this example

Serve hot.

The answer to this puzzle will be like this: TAPAPT PAT

and to help you, in each puzzle, it is the same letters that are missing from each line. The missing letters in the above example are T and A. Now you've got the idea, see how you get on with

With a filler, you've got to find the missing letters -

C

Between success and failure

By E. Yaghi

As far as Carol was concerned with life at the university. nothing ever got easier with the passage of time. Her courses became harder, she felt she had less time than ever before and to make matters extremely difficult, she was required to take a translation course as a requisite for her major in English literature. Being an older student proved difficult enough, being foreign either an extra disadvantage or privilege, whichever reigned

opportune or not during any given circumstance.
"I am becoming so tired." she complained to herself
as she walked down the path of knowledge one brisk autumn morning when the world smelled like pink and yellow roses, fresh mown grass and a scent of pine, "and it is as though I fail to please anyone anymore, least of all, myself. And sometimes when I least mean to, I hurt the ones I love the most! Is it because I am becoming more and more frustrated?"

Later on, as she joined her fellow students for her last lecture for the day, the cloud of depression that clung to Carol's mind grayed even further and she was faced with many words on a page that meant little to her. Trying to decipher some sense out of the script printed in Arabic was much more difficult to her than finding a needle in a haystack yet she had little choice. There was only a few days left until the exam. How could she grow competent enough to pass? What alternative might there be to solve her lack of knowledge in Arabic?

"It is so bumiliating to accept defeat on any exam!" she exclaimed to one of her classmates seated next to her. "If my ignorance in Arabic were under my control, then when I fail, I would be so embarrassed. Naturally, I will still be embarrassed, but there is no choice left to me. How can I learn enough Arabic to pass this translation course? If only there were some intensive courses available to foreign students like me which are included in the curriculum of the university, then I might have a slim chance of passing, but as it is, with my less than elementary background in standard Arabic, my success in passing this course looks very bleak indeed."

"I will help you if you'd like," her colleague offered. "How about seriously considering a brain transplant? I think that is the best solution to my problem. It is so ironic, because I have wanted to learn Arabic for quite some time now, but there has been no opportunity. I feel like being forced to take this course at this stage in my studies is like putting dark glasses on a blind person and asking him to'see. I consider myself almost sightless in Arabic. I try so hard, but with my scanty background in my target language I lack sufficient light to enable me

"Well, part of your weakness in Arabic is your own fault," her friend advised.

"True. I bave no one to blame but myself actually, but it is so easy for you to judge because you have a good English background from elementary school and thus, might find a second language difficult, but not impossible. On the other hand, I have not had any sort of regular Arabic lessons. Everything that I know, or rather, what little I know, I picked up in spuris of eagerness at home learning and then something new would inevitably pop up and I deserted my quest. One should always be grateful for knowledge, for it is as precious as life itself."

After an hour of frustrating translation in-class exercises. Carol became only too happy when the lecture was over and she was free to go home. She usually departed the huge domes of her beloved university in low spirits and deep frustration due to the hopelessness of her translation course and today was no exception. She slowly strode towards the newly built underground tunnel, descended the steps and could not help but notice the bright lights, the shining marble flooring and the cheery atmosphere of people coming and going which so sharply contrasted with her mood of despair. "At least, we students should be very grateful for this tunnel. It is short, attractive and much more convenient than climbing all those slippery stairs of the hridge that spans the two-way highway.

Outside the tunnel, she hailed a yellow cab hopped inside and became whisked away home as if she were inside a golden chariot drawn by fire-breathing dragons rescuing her from her dismal fate. But, she was not Cinderella, nor even Snow White and she must eat that poisoned apple and survive. Once at home, after lunch had been served to her large family, she dragged herself off to her chambers to try to study for her translation exam. It all seemed so hopeless. She didn't even know

where to begin! On the day of the exam, Carol did not feel her usual panic most often experienced during tests. She only felt an overwhelming hopelessness, for the only outcome she could expect was complete failure. Her poor husband had also suffered for with every translation homework she endeavoured to do, he joined in with moans and groans over the impossibility of conforming a non-native speaking learner of Arabic to someone competent enough to pass exams.

"Sometimes," Carol confessed to him, "I feel that I am so alone at the university. Even though there are students that I adore, this feeling of being alone sometimes overpowers me. And that feeling too that all my efforts are in vain! But surely, to accept defeat is the worst sin! The best advice I ever received was, 'to never give up! There are thorns strewn on the way towards the path of knowledge and my feet are worn out and bloodied and my burden is sometimes too heavy to bear, yet I cannot, must not, accept defeat for then I would never be able to live with myself and all my efforts to improve myself in the wonderful land of knowledge will have been in vain. I have delved in the world of English literature and have found the key to inspiration and

illumination and what I study is the story of life itself."

And then she concluded with a fit of contagious laughter, "You know what? I think my translation professor should pass me just for letting him laugh at my impossible sentence structure and my handwriting that looks like a child's! Surely, no student's exam could amuse him like mine.

JTV CHANNEL 2 WEEKLY PREVIEW

Thursday, Nov. 4

8:30 Coach

The Bigger They Are

Coach Hayden entertains Eddie Garret, a professional player, and invites him to coach in Minnesota.

9:10 Reasonable Doubts

A number of drug enforcement officers are implicated in a string of mysterious killings. Tessa and Dicky go after the corrupt officers.

10:00 News In English

10:20 Movie Of The Week Once Around

Starring: Holly Hunter and Richard Dregfass

Ethnic differences shake the marriage of a Lithuanian real estate salesman and an Italian American. Living in Boston, both strive 10 remain a family.

Friday, Nov. 5

8:30 E.N.G.

Smoke And Mirrors

A millionaire investor threatens to take over Channel 10 to convert it into a huge parking lot. Mike, Anne and the millionaire's own son stand up against bim.

9:30 Faces And Places

10:00 News In English

10:20 Blackheath Poisonings

II:10 Mind Your Language 10:20 Documentary

A Point Of Honour

Saturday, Nov. 6

8:30 The Fanelli Boys Playboy Frankie receives a

Sicilian curse for not keeping a date; the curse proves to be "destructive" in more than one way!!

9:00 Da Beat's On

9:30 Perspective

10:00 News In English

10:20 Festure Film — Thunder

Starring: Bo Svenson and Mark Gregory

Thunder is an American Indian who defends the sanctity of his ancestors' graves on a land to be exploited by the U.S. army.

Sunday, Nov. 7

8:30 You Bet Your Life

Comedienne Bill Cosby presides over a game show with a grand prize of \$10,000.

9:10 Thirty Something

The Distance

Suzanne is offered a job in New York City, but Gary is unhappy about the change. Ellen is unhappy too, for her relationship with Jeoffrey is in jeopardy.

10:00 News In English

II:10 The Golden Palace

The Golden Palace Hotel is reserved for a private party ...and Oliver is reunited with his one-time alcoholic mother.

Runaways

Monday, Nov. 8

8:30 Delta

Card

The Cabin and The Credit

Delta finds it impossible to use her credit card because it is in her divorced husband's name. She seeks a new one.

9:10 The House Of Eliott

Lydia is furious about Arthur's proposal to Evie which Beatrice and Evie are having financial problems.

10:00 News In English 10:20 Chancer

Blood

Scheming Jimmy Blake admits one of his greatest lies in this episode while Dex raises enough money to complete the gambling

Tuesday, Nov. 9

8:30 Night Court

The Next Voice You Hear

Judge Harry was deserted by his mother when he was five. As he laments her abs- 10:00 News In English

ence from his life, he re-

ceives a good news. 9:10 The Magical World Of

Brand New Life — Even The Housekeepers Sing The Blues

Mrs. Johnson has been Roger's housekeeper for many years. With Barbara coming, she has to either accept her as the woman of the

bouse, or quit. 10:00 News In English

10:20 From The Classics — Greta Garbo

From our classic films we present the Divine Garbo, a documentary on the life of actress Greta Garbo who died in 1990 with mystery still surrounding the reasons for her early retirement and secluded life.

Wednesday, Nov.

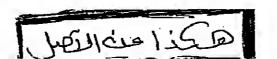
8:30 Head Of The Class

Privilege

Irvin is privileged to get a part-time job in an exclusive club. His classmates . seem to notice the changes in Irvin's character and behaviour.

9:10 Documentary --- Donana: The Last Resort.

Donana is an island, off the Spanish coast, which is being threatened by environmental disasters - ... from air and land pollution to plant and animal extinction. Factors which have devastating effect on 4 tourism.



Sleepless In Seattle: Destiny — vs — accidental occurances

Tom Hanks — Sam Meg Ryan — Ann Ross Malinger — Jonah Producer: Gary Foster Director: Nora Ephron Story by: Jeff Arch Screenplay by: Nora Ephron/David Ward/Jeff Arch Tristar Pictures 1993

Sleepless In Seattle is the name given to Sam by a radio station psychologist after his 8-year-old son, Jonah, calls in asking for a wife for his father. Jonah tells the Psychologist that Sam, who has been a widower of a year and a half, refuses to meet anyone and remains sleepless throughout the Seattle nights.

Across the continent in Baltimore listening to the conversation on Christmas Eve is Ann, who has just announced her engagement to Walter. Driving to her fiancee's home she is taken in by Jonah and then by Sam, who is forced on the phone by the coaxing of the Psychologist.

As Sam speaks of his wife and the magic in their relationship, Ann becomes more convinced that this person, whom she has never met, seen, or knew, is the only one for her.

Using her reporter's status with the Baltimore Sun, Ann gathers information about Sam and Jonah, and writes them a letter. She then lies to Walter and flies off to Seattle to research an article on radio talk shows and bereavement.

Sam and Jonah remain oblivious to Ann until they receive a letter from Ann — one of the many hundreds Sam has already received. Jonah, who has taken it upon himself to read Sam's fan mail, decides Ann is the one and insists that his father meets her in New York on Valentine's Day as requested in the letter.

Sam ignores Jonah despite his adament pleas until Jonah decides to leave to New York to meet "his new mother" ...and there on the top of the Empire State Building he waits.

A rather whimsical romantic fantasy which serves as a reminder of the wrong choices made in life and the reasons why people struggle to get it right.

The main reason suggested in Sleepless In Seattle is the unexplicable concept of destiny. All the characters in one way or another deal with this concept and follow 'signs" leading to their destinies.

Destiny versus accidental occurances is questionned several times throughout the movie, and the answer is always the same ...destiny is the winner. This is most evident in Ann's plan. When she takes matters into her own hands and flies to Seattle, she sees Sam twice, but

FILM REVIEW

does not meet him. It is only at the end when unexplicable reasons lead to Sam and Ann meeting, do they finally meet their destiny.

The excessive referral to the theme reduces the storvline to a predictable and simplistic one, but Tom Hanks' and Ross Malingers' wonderful performances added vigor and spark to the story. Their father-son relationship is portrayed well, as is their loss of a loved

The disappointment was with Meg Ryan's role. After seeing her as the quirky loveable Sally in When Harry Met Sally, her role as a lovestruck journalist in Sleepless In Seattle is somewhat of a letdown. The role of Ann is not the best for Ryan as it does not allow Ryan to exude the naturalism for which she has achieved acclaim.



Meg Ryan in Sleepless in Seattle

However, the director, Nora Ephron, in both her films When Harry Met Sally and Sleepless In Seattle, has depended heavily on the sound tracks to convey emotions and incidents. She has chosen similar types of music in both movies. So if you enjoyed Harry Cormick's music and words in When Harry Met Sally. you will equally enjoy this movie's soundtrack.

By Najwa Najjar-Kort

Robert Mitchum — the sleepy-eyed tough guy

By Bob Thomas The Associated Press

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain - That barfel-chested tough guy and master of sleepy-eyed villains was in a playful mood as he met the Spanish press.

Why did he stop writing poetry and children's stories?

"Because it contradicted my image," shot back Robert Mitchum. What is your image?

"Dissolute, brutal, untrustworthy, a general ne'er-do-well. Does your wife believe

that image? "Obviously not. She stuck around for 53 years." And how did Mitchum feel about playing a minor role for small money in the remake of Cape Fear, when he had starred in the 1962

"I wouldn't call \$250,000 for one day's work small

Mitchum was in Spain to receive the San Sebastian Film Festival's Donastia Award for Lifetime Achievement. "After 130-40-50 movies,

maybe I deserve this," said Mitchum, whose roles ranged from light-hearted in The Sundowners to terrifying in The Night Of The Hunter and the original Cape Fear.

It was a rare lapse of modesty for the long-lasting star who has a history of deprecating all things Hollywood, including himself.

Last January, the Holly-wood Foreign Press Association also handed him a career achievement award.

A star since 1945, Mitchum, 76, has been ignored by the Academy Awards after his supporting-actor nomination for The Story Of G.I. Joe, tant role.

Why the belated recogni-

Get him quick." Mitchum remained in

character throughout his stay in this seaside resort in northern Spain. He grumbled about having to don a tuxedo on four occasions. He complained about lack of sleep. And while other festival visitors were viewing films from many countries, Mitchum stared blankly at CNN on a television in his hotel suite.

"Bob can't go any-where," explained his wife, Dorothy. "Once in Rome we were told there would be no problem during the siesta. We went for a walk, and it ended in a riot. We had to take refuge in a shop until the police came."

One morning at the hotel, Mitchum came downstairs in the service elevator to have a breakfast interview in a closed dining room. The face is craggier,

appearance remains the same as in his film noir period at RKO.

He seems willing to leave his Santa Barbara home and fly anywhere in the world to ply his trade, as long as the price is right ("I work cheap") and paid in advance. His latest film was a South African adventure with Bo Derek, which he said went directly to video.

The actor's resume includes such prestige items as Heaven Knows, Mr. Allison (John Huston), Rio Grande (Howard Hawks) ous duds. Today's generation knows him primarily as the gruff but tender navy officer in the epic TV miniseries The Winds Of War and War And Remembrance.

Mitchum's early years the eyelids annually droop have long been befogged in one or two millimetres, legend and mystery. With

little prodding, he reminisced about his life after leaving home at 16 in middepression. His journey southward was interrupted in Savannah, Ga.

They had a cure for the homeless then - 180 days on the Chatham County Gang No. 1," he recalled. "We got 21-10 - 21 meals a week and 10 cents worth of Bull Durham golden

After concluding work on the road gangs, Mitchum decided to head West and join his sister in Long a local theatre. Beach, Calif. Unlike other rode the rails. "Whole families would

be huddled in freight cars," graveyard shift, and I never he recalled. "I was warned: slept," he said. "I'd work be huddled in freight cars," 'Don't go into L.A. they'll Jail for delousing.' I was so Santa Fe Freight Yards.

"Five Mexicans were hate your job."

under a water tower with three gallons of wine. They called me over, gave me some wine and told me how to get out. I thought, 'jeez, a welcoming party for the bums this is home.

His first meal in California came at the midnight mission on L.A.'s Skid Row ("The food? Not bad. Better then the stale bread I'd been eating."). He moved in with his sister and her navy husband, worked as a dishwasher, busboy and longshoreman and acted in

The defence industry was and Ryan's Daughter future stars, he did not booming, and Mitchum (David Lean). Adsonumer- travel by super chief. He hired on at Lockheed air-

"I was working the two nights on 15 minutes' put you in Lincoln Heights sleep. Finally I went blind."

A Glendale doctor diweary I rode right into the agnosed his problem: "It's a hoppies. The roles imsymptomatic reaction. You

His sight restored, Mitchum briefly sold shoes before accepting an agent's offer of studio interviews. He bombed at Paramount Pic-. tures and walked across Melrose Avenue and was hired for the hopalong Cassidy westerns at \$150 a week.

"I figured I'd play the romantic lead," Mitchum remarked, "But Bill Boyd (Hoppy) took one look at me and said, 'you look mean around the eyes. You'll do for the villain."

"Sure." he lied. "I used to break horses on my daddy's ranch at Lubbock, Texas." After being bucked off four times, Mitchum was advised by a former rodeo champion: "Just look like you can ride." That did it.

The fledgling actor managed to work in three other movies while making the proved, and G.I. Joe started a stellar career.

New Jungle Orchestra marries Ellington with Juju

Robert Mitchum in

War And Remembr-

"They can't find anybody

else," he said. "You get the

feeling: 'Get him while he's

still around. He's failing.

By John Swenson Reuter

NEW YORK — The New Jungle Orchestra may* appear to be an odd choice to accompany a European monarch on trips abroad. but that perception quickly evaporates once the band starts playing.

It incorporates a wild mix of world music styles into a unique framework that marries the orchestrations of the Duke Ellington Band of the 1920s with the incandescent rhythms of West African Juju music.

The nine-member jazz band, currently on a tour of the Americas which takes them from the United States through Mexico and Argentina, is the first nonclassical ensemble to be named Denmark's official musical representative. 'It was a really big shock

to be selected," guitarist and co-leader Pierre Dorge told Reuters in a recent interview, "particularly be-cause the kind of jazz we play is not the 'clean' style.

the minister of culture and it was strange because she was from the Conservative

Margrethe II on visits over-

receive the highest ratings in international jazz publications.

"It was the decision of

Dorge and keyboardist Irene Becker together lead the ensemble that accompanies Denmark's Queen

The growing international reputation of the New Jungle Orchestra, or NJO, undoubtedly contributed to this landmark decision. The band's releases consistently

In his book A Night In Tunisia, jazz critic Norman Weinstein called the NJO "one of Europe's most sophisticated jazz bands, with a penchant for transforming various world music elements, particularly those from West Africa and the Middle East."

Dorge, 47, played with a wide range of Danish jazz and rock groups before forming the NJO in 1980, the same year he and Beck-er studied African rhythms at Karl Berger's Creative Music Foundation in Woodstock, New York - site of the famous 1969 rock fes-

tival.
"I didn't even bring a guitar with me," said

Dorge. "In Woodstock I was concentrating on learning African polyrhythms, learning percussion, playing two against three and three

against four, especially the West African rhythms." Under the tutelage of Jahi Foday Musa Suso, a master of the 21-string kora played by West African griots (tribal tellers of legends), Dorge experienced a musical revelation that formed

the basis of his conception for the NJO. "Suddenly I could see the whole history of jazz," said

Dorge used these ideas to develop a style in which profound eclecticism is kept in tight focus by the vision of the Ghanaian rhythms at the heart of the arrange-

Eerily recast pieces of Ellingtonia evolve from moments of surreal precision to shimmering mirages of African landscape.

On his latest recording. Karawane, Dorge uses this technique to convert one of the most overplayed Ellington pieces in history, Caravan, into the climactic theme in a suite of cinematic scope.

Dorge's unpredictable musical turns and a penchant for dry wit have led many Danish jazz fans to view him as something of a musical practical joker, yet much of what his native audience sees as outrageousness is merely Dorge's deadpan approach to presenting new ideas.

Puppets pirouette in ancient Japan ritual

By Roger Crabb

Reuter TAKAYAMA, Japan — For a man who must impose order on a chaotic tangle of silken spaghetti, puppet master Yoshisato Ito is calmness itself.

Seated on a stool in an old teashop in Takayama, central Japan, Ito patiently takes his disciples — four adults and three pre-teen boys - through a centuriesold marionette routine intimately linked to Japan's ancient rice culture.

Within days, they will be paraded through this picturesque little town, concealed on one of the 11 ornate floats used in the annual autumn festival to thank the Shinto gods for the harvest. All that thousands of wards him.

street spectators will sec is the plump, jolly figure of the god of fortune, pirouetting in stately fashion at the prow of the float while two smaller puppets perform complicated tricks on a

Putting the marionettes through their time-hallowed performance -- the 200year-old float is believed to have been copied from an even earlier model - takes astonishing dexterity in manipulating their 36 silken

Slowly, after one or two false starts, the God - his white figure clothed in rich brocades --- reaches the end of his catwalk and stands bowing benevolently to left and right as the first of the acrobats comes flying to-

Within minutes, he is seated on the God's shoulder and his fellow is making his way to join him.

Ito, 51, counsels the boys in a quiet voice, his eyes rarely leaving the strings. Concentration is all-impor-

If he is worried about their competence, he gives no sign of it.

"Occasionally the strings break in damp weather," he confides to a visitor. 'Once we broke five strings in one practice.

For most of the year, Ito concentrales on running a nearby futon mattress shop. But as the autumn "Mat-suri" (festival) approaches. his thoughts turn to the puppet routine he has performed now for 35 years.

Foreign cosmetics hypnotise timid Beijing ladies

By Mark O'Neill Reuter

BEIJING — It's a Saturday afternoon in one of Beijing's middle-class shopping centres and the staff in the cosmetics department are

run off their feet. A video praises an American face cream, women in crisp yellow uniforms paint the eyes of their clients and. foreign shampoos and lotions disappear off the

shelves. The foreign cosmetics revolution has hit stuffy

In the 1960s and 1970s it was considered bourgeois anti-revolutionary to

use cosmetics," explained Wang Mei, a woman in her thirties buying eye make-up. "Now, in the hotel where I work, we have to wear them. If you do not, your bonus is cut."

"I buy the cheapest brands, locally made," said a 20-year-old, munching French fries with her boyfriend in the McDonalds next to the centre.

"That is because I work in a factory. If you work in a hotel, a shop or a restaurant, you should buy brands made by joint ventures that are a bit more expensive. If you are very rich, you buy the stuff that is directly imported," she said.

of Beijing concede nothing to their sisters in Shanghai, Hong Kong, Taipei or Singapore in natural good looks but were long handicapped by living in the capital of a puritan, proletarian Communist Party.

Last year two up-market shopping malls opened, one of them a joint venture with a Japanese firm, selling imported perfume at up to 3,000 yuan (\$526) and face cream up to 1,000 yuan

This sets new standards for Beijing women to

The main beneficiaries

have been the French,

The tall, slender beauties Japanese, British and American firms that set up joint ventures in China and sell their soap, perfume, shampoos, creams and lotions to the domestic market, at prices slightly higher than domestic brands.

With their superior packaging, advertising, quality and brand image, they are more than a match for domestic producers who are often handicapped by old machinery, shortages of capital, poor research and rising costs of raw mate-

Official figures show sales of foreign soap in China are increasing at rates of 30 per

The People's Daily reported this month that the authorities had seized and destroyed 6.600 cases of fake Hazeline Snow British toilet soap worth 1.5 million yuan (\$263,000).

They discovered during a five-month investigation that more than 80 firms nationwide were involved in the racket. Local brands are also

handicapped by the widespread sale of fake and even harmful cosmetics. A law governing the advertising of such products came into effect only on Oct. I this

The consumer news, the mouthpiece of China's money and, as they do it.

Light Industry Ministry, lamented what it called the worship of foreign brands and the automatic assumption that they were better than Chinese ones, causing them to win a rising share of

the market. "Is the moon abroad more round than the moon in China?" it asked sardonically, commenting that Beijing shoppers could reel off lists of foreign brand names hut not a single Chinese one.

"Our reliance on foreign goods is hard for the foreigners to imagine." it said. They use this trust and good name to take our they mock and laugh at

Nowhere is this felt stronger than on the first floor of the Sino-Japanese joint venture store selling Christian Dior. Givenchy and other brands straight off the plane from Paris. with import duties of 100 to 300 per

Plump Beijing house-wives in padded blue pantsuits, who have been hypassed by the cosmetics revolution. look in astonishment at the elegant counter displays and the prices, in many cases more than they

earn in three months.

vice." sniffs one of the sales ladics, impeccably made up and looking as if she has just stepped out of one of their advertisements. "We do not quarrel with customers as they do in other

"What is the big deal about foreign cosmetics?" asked one student in his twenties. "We were there

huang, emperor of China 2200 years ago? He had dozens of concubines who made themselves up with face powder. They say that, when they took their morn-"Here it is high-class pro-ducts and high-class ser- white with their powder."

"You remember Qin Shi-

علدًا منذ الأحل

Australia found perfect for study of drink-induced brain damage

Spielmann

The Associated Press

SYDNEY - The U.S. government wants to find out just bow many drinks a day it takes to damage a brain, and it has found the perfect place to do the research -Australia.

"For some reason that nobody has ever satisfactorily explained, Australia bas a very high level of brain damage due to alcosaid Dr. Alex Wodack, a member of the group on alcobol and bealth.

also less likely than Americans to abuse other drugs, making them ideal for the new three-year University of Sydney study on alcoholinduced brain damage commissioned by the U.S. National Institute of Health

"Claims are being made about how many drinks a day are safe before damage

Royal Australian College is likely to occur — two for of Physicians' working women and four for men. for instance — but this is not based on neuropathological analysis. Our research Australian drinkers are aims to provide this basis for such advice," said Clive Harper, a professor of neuropathology at the University of Sydney, said

Wednesday. "We probably have the highest incidence in the world of Wernicke-Korsakoff Syndrome, which results in brain shrinkage as a result of alcoholism," Prof. Harper said.

Aussies aren't the world's heaviest drinkers - they rank about 12th in the world - but they are the top English-speaking country in per capita consumption, another factor that attracted the U.S. funding. The average Australian's consumption of booze has

France heads the list, followed by Portugal, Luxembourg, Spain, Italy, Hungary, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, Austria and Denmark. The United

lessened in recent years.

Backed by an Australian dollars 750,000 (\$500,000) NIH grant, the University

of Sydney's Pathology Department will compare autopsy samples of brain tissue from alcoholics with control groups of teetotalers and moderate drinkers. Preparation for the study

has been underway for The alcoholics studied will be free of signs of liver damage or Vitamin BI deficiency, which has been

sbown to cause brain dam-

new research intends to focus on damage caused by alcohol alone.

Up to 60 brains will be dissected and studied. which Prof. Harper said would be enough to discover the level at which alcohol begins causing damage.

The individuals studied tend to be businessmen. engineers, pilots, and other people who are alcoholics but lead fairly normal. successful lives. Their level of drinking is corroborated by reports from family mem-

Liquor has been interwoven into Australian history since the first landing of convicts and their wardens in 1788.

Australian social life revolves around pubs.

Liquor was the first means of exchange in the early colony, rather than gold or sliver. Workers were paid in liquor. Goods were bought with it. The first hospitals and churches were ouilt with funds raised from liquor sales.

Several rebellions have been sparked by liquor, including a 1916 rampage by thousands of drunken soldiers who looted saloons. smushed city windows. broke up marketplaces and terrorised all they met.

That led the city to order pubs closed at 6 p.m., a law not repealed until 1955. The early close of pubs created the "six o'clock swill," a rush of workingmen into pubs to chug down as much booze as they could in the last hour before final call.

Dutch TV game show is a matter of life and death

By Andrew Kelly Reuter

AMSTERDAM — Imagine a television game show in which a studio audience

must decide which of two

saving medical treatment. Too controversial to screen? Not in the Netherlands where a series called

patients should receive life- viewers with exactly this type of dilemma.

Originally intended to stimulate debate on how to control health spending, the A Matter Of Life And series has triggered criticism Death bas been confronting of its unorthodox approach

to the issue. This is a revolting programme... improper and almost immoral," said Fons Dekkers of the Dutch Pa-

tients' Federation.

In one recent episode the

studio audience had to choose between two cancer patients who both wanted treatment with an expensive new drug which could prolong their lives.

Viewers vere reminded several times that doctors take the real decisions anout the patients who volunteer to take part.

But that has not dampened criticism of the series which was partially financed by the Ministry of Health "You shouldn't treat sucb serious matters in a caricature manner." said Theo Berkestijn of the Dutch

Medical Association. Critics say the series has done more harm than good by mispresenting the complex issue of how best to allocate finite health care resources as a simple choice between two patients.

"I don't doubt their good intentions. but form and content of the programme are very unfortunate." said Mr. Berkestijn.

Annelies Van Den

Langenberg, 45, explained burg about her life expecin one recent episode that she had originally been tre-

ated for cancer of the ovaries but that the disease had then spread to other organs. Conventional chemothertime to vote. An electronic score board apy had helped at first but was no longer effective, she

The newly registered drug on which she is pinning her hopes costs 30.000 guilders (\$16.280) for a course

of 10 injections. 'My husband and fumily have said we'll raise the money somehow, even if it means selling the house, she savs.

Marianne Van De Ven. 56, was successfully treated for breast cancer but years later doctors diagnosed cancer in her liver and bones. Chemotherapy has since helped to stabilise her condition.

"I won't really grow old with this, but you always hope that a drug will be found that can prolong your life." she says when asked by presenter Violet Falken-

After a brief review of the patients' personal de-tails and condition. Ms. Falkenburg announces that it is

flashes up the result: 38 votes for Van Den Langenberg and eight for Van De

The camera turns to the contestants. Van Den Langenberg is impassive but Van De Ven looks lightly amused as Ms. Falkenburg asks members of the audience to explain how

they voted. The chemotherapy is working for Mrs. Van De Ven... but this could be the last chance for Mrs. Van Langenberg," says a young woman who voted for Van Langenberg.

A man in his 40s says he didn't vote: "You can't make a choice here. These two people have the same illness, they can't do anything about it, they just have to be helped." he says.

The Ministry of Health decided to co-finance the six-part series in order to promote public debate about how to keep the costs of the Dutch health care sys-\$ tem under control.

"We hope it leads to dis-cussion. Our goal was to make people think about what health care costs, how important it is and where choices inust be made." said spokeswoman Mariette Utermark.

Ms. Utermark said it was regrettable that reaction to the programme had centred on its provocative format rather than on the key issue of how to safeguard affordable health care.

Nevertheless, it had been a partial success, she said, relerring to one episode in which two patients admitted they had no idea how much 🤻 their regular physiotherapy treatment cost.

"The programme has made some people think: Wow does a hip operation cost so much?" she said.

Forget the myths, chocolate is good for you — scientist

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

By Antariksawan Jusuf Agence France Presse

JAKARTA — The belief that "something that tastes so good just can't be good for you" is crumbling under the weight of new studies on the nutritional value of chocolate, a scientist has

"Chocolate is not a substitute for breakfast, lunch or dinner, but as part of a balanced diet, chocolate eaten in moderation is good food and good for you," Charles Duncan, chairman of the Scientific Committee of the American Cocoa Research Institute (ACRI) told a cocoa conference in Bali last weeks.

... The scientific committee of the ACRI, an offshoot of

TUTTI-FRUTTI By Arthur S. Verdesca

ers Association of the United States, comprises working groups on biotechnology, cocoa research, cocoa processing and evaluation, health and safety.

The first "myth," Mr. Duncan said, was that chocolate was high in caffeine, which can cause children to become byperac-

He said studies showed that symptoms such as excitation and sleep disturbance occurred only after ingesting levels of caffeine in the 450-900 milligramme range, equivalent to several cups of strong coffee.

"However a 1.5 ounce (42 gram) milk chocolate bar contains only about 10

the Chocolate Manufactur- milligrams of caffeine," be said, adding that a child would have to eat about 50 chocolate bars to suffer over-stimulation.

> Mr. Duncan also attacked the belief that chocolate aggravates acne.

Citing studies conducted by the U.S. Naval Academy and the University of Missouri, Mr. Duncan said chocolate showed no significant changes to acne conditions.

Even the link between chocolate and tooth decay is spurious, according to Mr. He said the results of

ACRI-supported research demonstrated that the higher"the concentration of cbocolate the less acid was produced and the less demineralisation of tooth enamel occurred.

He said a study had also been conducted to evaluate the effect of cocoa consumption on reproductive capacity.

"Cocoa powder was fed to rats at levels as high as five per cent of the diet without any effect on the reproductive capacity under the conditions of a standard three-generation evaluation study," he said.

Mr. Duncan added: "The once prevalent belief (that) 'something that tastes so good just can't be good for you' has given way to a more balanced picture of chocolate and cocoa products and their relationship to health and nutrition.

Sexuality at the time of AIDS

- By Aurore Thierry.

A huge study of sexual behaviour has been carried out by the public authorities, questioning more than 20,000 adults. The purpose of this very serious survey is to improve AIDS prevention policies.

PARIS - When did you make love for the first time? At the age of 17 for boys and 18 for girls. This age has become stable over the last twenty years or so. How many times do you have intercourse in a month? 8, say men. 7, say women, with the maximum being situated between the ages of 25 and 44.

How many partners do people have in a lifetime? Between 12 and 14 for men. and between 3 and 5 for women. Unfaitbfulness in couples which have been together for more than a year appears to be a male (5 per cent) speciality rather than a female one (2 per cent).

To improve prevention

This is some of the information drawn from a big survey on "the sexual behaviour of the French", the results of which were recently published by "Docu-mentation Française." This study was carried out by the National Agency for Re-search on AIDS so as to draw up strategies for preventing the disease more effectively and establish forecast models of its development.

The questions asked concerned both sexual practices and attitudes to the risk of transmission. In addition to self-erotisation, which is very widely practised (90 per cent of men and 42 per cent of women), there has been an increase in oralgenital sexual relations, but it is true that people speak about them more easily

of women and more in the Paris area and among 35-50

year-olds. Another surprising fact, not because of the figures, but because it was admitted to, is that 5 per cent of women, compared with 0.8 per cent of men, indicate that they bave had sexual intercourse under constraint and, in one case in two, from a near relation.

The reflex of protection A major question is: Do

people use better protection from diseases since the appearance of AIDS? The good news is that young people are well aware of the risk of transmission, more than their seniors. Indeed, among those aged under 20, 57 per cent of boys and 47 per cent of girls have used condoms. This reveals the effectiveness of information campaigns for teenagers. What is worrying, bowever, is the number of older heterosexuals, having several partners and never using protection (39 per cent of men and 58 per cent of women in this category).

What have people got against condoms? They are far too expensive, according to their users, above all young people (79 per cent). On the other hand, nonusers argue that they may reduce pleasure and are 'not very romantic''. However, an overwhelming majority of the sample of interviewees (94.3 per cent) are in favour of television commercials on this matter.

If blood-tests for the detection of A1DS are systematic for blood donors. prenatal supervision and hospitalisation, voluntary tests have increased among people said to be "risk cases" (those with several partners, homosexuals and bisexuals). Hence the importance of maintaining anonymous and free detection centres.



According to a French research on AIDS. those below 20 years of age have better awareness of the risk of transmission of the disease than their seniors

Impressive scientific work

Twenty years after the famous Simon report on the sexuality of the French, which was based on 2,600 people and was carried out at a time when the idea was to promote contraception, this survey is a first in its scale and wealth of informa-tion. It cost 13 million francs and mobilised 110 investigators for 6 months as well as several dozen academics and researchers (epidemiologists, demographers, sociologists and psychologists) from the big-gest public organisations; The National Institute for Health and Medical Research (INSERM), the National Scientific Research Centre (CNRS) and the National Institute for Demographic Studies (INED).

The fact that only 3 per cent of those interviewed interrupted the conversation proves the interest and seriousness of the study. The wealth of information has not yet all been used. particularly the psychosociological factors of the behaviours recorded. Two other sections of this survey. are being prepared on 15-18-year-olds and on adults in French Guiana, Martinique and Guadeloupe — L'Actualite En France.

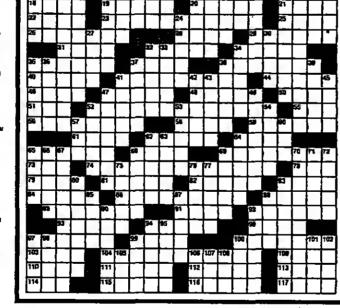
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Last Week's Cryptograms

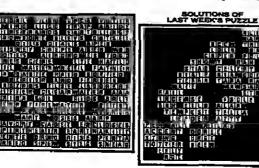
CRYPTOGHAMS

-By Eugene T. Maleska

1. POZZYPOGS GB OZR PESTGM FSYK BESTGEM KATH PESTGEM ZTOOZY FQXTH

2 SLXB SLU SHLOOPY WMPH I SIGG SEGLO -By Dunne H. McGogo

4. YLMCLMIS ANTS LMTCMI AN IN AMALMI ANIMALME AON MOMY.



Homosexuality is more delicate to assess and, according to researchers, it was under-declared. It appears to concern 4 per cent of men and 2.6 per cent

SOLUTIONS **FILLERS**

ه كذا من النصل

Zarqa will vote in those who invested time and money in its development

(Continued from page 1)

is weakened by the introduclion of the one-person, onevote formula into the electoral process which has effectively deprived him of support by the IAF.

Observers believe that Fouad Khalafat, who won the elections in Tafileh in 1989 on the Muslim Brotherhood ticket, will not fare well in his bid for reelection as an independent Islamist in Zarga. Mr. Khalafat fell from grace with the Brotherhood due to his "pro-Saudi" position on the Gulf crisis and war and will not receive any help from the IAF. He does not have a strong tribal base because. according to Dr. Werr, most of the Zarqa residents whose roots are in the southern parts of the Kingdom have registered in their home-

"I welcome you to my house, the house of my tribe," IAF candidate Bassam Al Omoush told nearly 1,500 supporters during a ral-ly Monday, in an appeal for the support of his large Bani Hassan tribe.

But the IAF will not win many of the tribal vote in Zarqa because its candidate's clan, the Omoush, is based in Mafrag and because the Bani Hassan vote will be split

among nine competitors. The Bani Hassan tribe in the governorate consists of three main clans: the Zawahreh, the Khalaileh and the Ghweiri, in addition to the Ziuds who live in the outskirts of the city. The Khalailehs are fielding one candidate, the Zawahrehs three, the Ghweiris two and the Ziuds only one. The Omousb are fielding two candidates. Bassam. who is counting on the IAF votes, and the other. Saleh Al Ghallab, who enjoys the support of Fateh sympathisers.

Observers therefore say that only Bani Hassan candidates who can win votes from outside the tribe stand a real chance in the elections.

A former deputy and a mayor of Zarqa for four vears. Salameh Ghweiri

appears to be the strongest contender among the Bani Hassan candidates.

Mr. Ghweiri, a member of the centrist Al Mustakhbal Party who is contesting the elections as an independent, says he expects support from .the city's business community and voters who "tried him as both a deputy and mayor of the city." Observers believe that Mr. Ghweiri will loose a good percentage of the clan's vote to his challenger, Sheikh Nouman Ghweiri, but will be able to compensate for the loss through winning votes from other communities in

In addition to competing for the Bani Hassan vote with eight candidates. Mr. Gallah. who is a columnist in Al Dustour Arabic daily, will bave to share the Fatch vote with other three candidates who are among 32 Jordanians of Palestinian origin and at least three parties affiliated with Palestinian factions that are vying for the Palestinian

While the East Jordanian vote is split among tribal candidates, observers say the Palestinian vote in Zarga is divided along family and hometown affiliations. Accordingly, the voting pattern among Jordanian Palestinians will not be harmonious, with the people of the West Bank town of

Elections 93

the votes of Fateh supporters are trying to attract voters

(only) one, and Akraba

The autonomy accord between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Otganisation (PLO) is an election issue that candidates appealing to the Palestinian vote are raising and observers believe will be an important factor in winning the Palestinian vote. Heije, for instance, split While candidates seeking among two candidates, Toubas among three, Bourin

(also) one.

who favour the accord, Tareq Al Hejjawi. a candidate of the Jordanian Democranc Popular Unity Party, which was set up by former activists of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, is seeking the support of what his spokesman called "nationalist forces" opposed to the accord.

Mr. Hikmat. who is a former minister of information and culture: believes that even though there is a qualified support for the agree-, ment among Palestinians, the politically uncommitted or 'floated' voters among them will elect candidates who reject it.

When people go to the ballot box, their nationalist feelings which developed over the years will direct them to vote for candidates who reject the agreement," said Mr. Hikmat.

Dr. Hejjawi., who is competing for the votes of people

of his hometown of Hejje with Misbah Al Hejjawi, who enjoys the support of Fatch sympathisers, has gone into coalition with former Depu-ty Haddadin of the Jordan People's Democratic Party in an attempt to project a unified leftist front.

Observers, however, believe the coalition will not help Mr. Haddadin in his hid for the Christian seat.

Mr. Haddadin, wbose party is dominated by sympathisers of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), won the 1989 elections with support from Jordanian-Palestinian voters who could vote for six candidates under the old bloc voting sys-

Observers say that the new electoral rules will deny Mr. Haddadin many of the second or third votes he had last time and his position will be further weakened by the

split within his party. Dr. Werr said that Mr. Haddadin does not have the support of the rank and file of his party even though he is backed by its leadership. His big-gest challenge for the politicalcommitted vote comes from Adeeb Hawatmeh, brother of DFLP leader Nayef Hawatmeh, according to observers. Dr. Werr and Mr. Hikmat

say the strongest candidate among the five competitors for

the Christian seat is Tayseer Ammari, who has the support of both the Christians and Muslims of Zarqa residents who come from the north of the Kingdom, where he also comes from.

Dr. Werr said Dr. Ammari will win the majority of the 3,500 registered Christian voters who come from the north as well as the majority of the 5,500 registered Muslim voters who are originally from the north and who had unanimously supported him.

While Anwar Habaibeh, a gynaecologist, has a strong Christian base, he will have to share the Salti vote with contender Hawatmeh and two other candidates from Zarga who are originally from Salt. "That leaves Dr. Ammari as the favourile Christian candidate," said Dr. Werr. The Circassian-Checben

candidate will also be determined by votes from outside the community, observers say. The seat is being contested

by three candidates, former deputy Jammo. Sharaf Al Deen Ala Al Deen and Adel Bolad. Observers expect the competition to be between Sheikh Jammo and Mr. Ala Al Deen who, they say, enjoys more support among the Chechens, whose population count is no more than a few thousand hut who nevertheless constitute an important minority in the city, being one of the first people to reside in contemporary Zarga.

Mr. Hikmat said Sheikh Jammo, who has been long active on the public scene in the city, will tap the good relations he has built over the years with voters outside the Chechen community as well as the non-politicised Muslim vote. Sheikh Jammo had served as member of successive partiaments since the early six-

Dr. Werr believes Sheikh Jammo is the most likely winner of the race, especially after Ahmad Fakher, a leftist Circassian physician, reversed bis. earlier decision to enter the race. Dr. Fakher ran in the 1989 contest and won 7,272 votes compared to Sheikh Jammo's 14,181 or 24.39 per cent of the vote.

Despite the large number of competitors in the race for the governorate's six seats, observers believe there will be a low

turnout as was the case in 1989. They attribute such voter apathy to the failure of the previous deputies to push harder for improving the quality of life in the city, the electoral changes, the uncertainty about holding the election following the signing of the PLO-Israel accord and the lack of appeal of the majority of the candi-

Figures available until noon yesterday put the number of voters who bave collected their voting cards at 127,320 voters, 58,636 of whom are women.

Dr. Werr and Mr. Hikmat expect a maximum of 50 per cent turnout. In 1989, there were 116,672 registered voters of whom 58,153 cast their

Candidates are trying to encourage more people to vote by focusing on issues that relate to their direct needs. People are more concerned with services." said Mr. Gweiri.

Even the IAF is aware of that and its candidates divided the issues they addressed in a public rally they held on Monday among Islamic ideology. the Palestinian issue and the needs of the city.
"All residents of the city

have been done great injustice," Dr. Omoush told the rally in reference to the low level of support the governorate receives from the government and the under-representation of the city in the Lower House of Parliament.

According to the observers who spoke to the Jordan Times. Zarga will have two main surprises when the results of the elections are known.

First, Bassam Haddadin who won 14.698 votes or 25.77 per cent of the vote in 1989 will come third in the race for the Christian seat, the winner being Dr. Ammari and the runner-up Mr. Hawatmeh. Second, Nadia Boushnaq the only woman candidate in Zarqa, who won 2,602 votes or .37 per cent of the vote in · 1989, will not win her bid for election but will do better than many of her male competitors in this industrial city right on the edge of the desert. With a long history of public service in the city's voluntary societies and charitable organisations, Mrs. Boushnag has a large reservoir of support which she hopes to mobilise on Nov. 8.

Blend of party and tribal support is the key in Irbid

(Continued from page 1)

ence of mostly veiled women

and bearded men. In order to enhance the chances of its four candidates, the front has divided Irbid voters into what it describes as "working groups." Each group is supposed to cast its vote in favour of a predetermined IAF candi-

Contrary to expectations that the one-person, one-vote formula would enhance tribalism and hurt Islamists and independents, the change. candidates and voters believe, has created splits hetween and within the major tribes, who in most cases are related to each other by marriage or lineage but who failed to agree on one nominee.

The new formula prevents candidates from forming alliances and barter votes as was the case in 1989 when a voter was able to cast a ballot for as many as candidates as

there are seats in the district. 'We are even unable to visit each other, because it would be taken as an offence as if we are defying the other families, most of whom have candidates running against ours," said Dirar Batayneh, a campaign coordinator for Dr. Aref Batayneh, a member of the 15,000-strong Batayneh tribe and a former minister of

Almost every candidate has a story to tell of a relative running against him, syphon-ing off votes from the candi-

date the family has chosen. By and large, the only party that carries any weight in Irbid is the IAF. Leftists and pan-Arabists bardly carry any weight in this governorate of 600,000 residents.

The Tal family, with 1,350 registered voters, was one of the few families whichreached a consensus and chose only one candidate to represent it in the elections.
"All of the family, regard-

less of their political leanings, with the exception of a few. are going to vote for me," said Mr. Tal, a first-time Abdul Rahim Ekour, who

in 1989 secured 22,920 votes, has only one opponent from his family, journalist Salameh Ekour, just like Kofahi, who is competing against a cousin, Jamal Kofahi.

Three Omaris — Kayed, Talal and Majed — are com-peting for the Omari votes, but observers say that like in the case of Kofahi, they do not stand strong chances. Talal is leader of a licensed leftist political party, but he is not running as a member of that group in these elections.

Mohammad Alwaneh, an independent Islamist who in 1989 came in fifth with 14.459 votes and during his term also served as minister of agriculture, is also running again this year, but his presence, according to observers, is not very visible.

Yousef Kasawneh, who in 1989 won 19,064 votes when he ran on the Brotherhood ticket, is running again this year allegedly under the Brotherhood's banner. This time around, the Brotherhood did not nominate any on its own ticket and senior members in the movement confirm that Dr. Kasawneh "resigned" and is no longer an active member.

Preliminary elections among the Batayneh family chose Dr. Aref, the former minister, to represent their 4,600 eligible voters. Despite the family consensus, another Batayneh, Dr. Mabmoud, also chose to run. According to the supporters of Dr. Aref, Mahmoud is an expatriate residing in Germany wbo came to Jordan only a month before the elections and is expected to return as soon as the polls are finished as he did in 1989.

.Dr. Aref Batayneh is an example of a candidate who is affiliated to a large family and is a former government official and senior army officer. He bad been director of the army's Royal Medical Services before he was appointed minister, "Both are important elements which will work in his favour and his achievements in the near past will encourage voters to choose him as their representative," said a member of

his campaign team. Saleh Irsbeidat, former minister of youth, is yet another example of a member of a prominent family who held public office and is running for candidacy, with a special emphasis on the young electorate ("the candidate of the youth," his slogan

Although he never lived in Irbid, people think highly of him, mainly because of his father. Shafiq Irsheidat, a founding member of the National Socialist Party, who had beld several ministerial posts, especially in the cabinet of Suleiman Nabulsi...

Abdul Raouf Rawabdeh, who in 1989 won a seat with 11,178 votes, is again a likely winner in the polls. A former minister of public works and Amman mayor, Mr. Rawabdeh, popular in both Irbid and elsewhere for bis quickwit and acidic remarks, is running on the merits of bis public service rather than the size of his family (which many Irbidis put at no more than 100 members).

Mr. Rawabdeh, a founding member and leader of the Yakatha (Awakening) Party, is not running on his party's

Speaking to the Jordan Times in his diwan in his hometown, Sareeb, a village on the outskirts of Irbid, Mr. Rawabdeh said: "There is only one big party (the IAF).
All the other political parties
need at least 10 years to
establish themselves in the society in order to be called parties.

Contrary to expectations that the election campaign would turn into a referendum over the peace process, espe-cially the "Gaza-Jericho first" accord and the Jordan-Israel peace agenda, voters are focused less on politics and more on domestic ser-

"For Jordanians and Jordanians of Palestinian origins alike, the peace process comes way down the list," said Mr. Rawabdeh, "except that the latter ask more about future Palestinian relations with Jordan and the possibility of a Jordanian-Palestinian coofederation or federation."

Many Irbid voters resent the lack of services Irbid receives as compared to southem regions where many of Jordan's main tribes come from. They are concerned about onemployment, (which is 37 per cent of the workforce in the governorate), education and equal opportunities in addressing these

Many of the candidates agree that voters are now being more pragmatic and realistic in what to expect from parliament and from their future deputies.

"Both candidates and voters have matured and are more aware of their role and capabilities," said Mr. Rawabdeh. "Voters now want deputies capable of addressing the day-to-day needs of their city."
"Whoever says he is going

to liberate Palestine is lying, said a voter in the Irbid refugee camp, which has 10,000 registered voters. "We know that our deputy cannot produce miracles but we want him to be interested in our needs and not only visit the camp a month before the elections," said Sheikh Hab-

boush, a camp elder.

"Although the (Palestinian) candidates are more actively involved than in 1989, the Islamic trend is pretty dominant and the IAF has a much stronger presence in the camp," said Sbeikh Habboush, who came to Jordan after the 1948 war.

The IAF candidates are reportedly socially active in the camps and elsewhere. "They attend all our happy and sad occasions and they keep in touch with the peo-

ple," he said. According to Sheikb Hab-boush, although 11 Jorda-nians of Palestinian origin are running as candidates, two figure high among the voters: Saleh Sha watah, a former Fateh member, and Musleb

Azzeh, an independent. Hashem Gharaybeb, an independent leftist candidate, who also hails from a large family, said the situation of the leftists in general "is bad," Other candidates with leftist leanings include Ahmad Jaradat, Husni Shiyab (a former deputy), Abdul Khaleq Shatat, Mazen Abu Baker, Taha Ababneh, Issam Sa'adi, Fahmi Abedi and Jameel Nimri.

"The political leanings of the leftist candidates is the element least expected to affect the choice of the voters," said Mr. Gbaraybeh. As far as the Christian seat is concerned, four candidates

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ance should have been good/strong.

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are contesting it; Jamil Nim-ri, Nader Abu Sba'ar, Marwan Andrawes and Fadialiah Haddad.

The decision by Deeb Marji, the deputy who had occupied the seat in the 11th Parliament, not to seek reelection and (due to differences he bas with his own leftist party, as well as his opposition to the change in the Election Law) bas left the race to be won by one of the two strongest candidates, Mr. Nimri and Dr. Abu Sha'ar, , who belong to the same family, but the race is too close to

Mr. Nimri, who is the editor of Al Ahali weekly newspaper, moutbpiece of the leftist Hashd party, claims the support of both the Nimris (which is one of the biggest Christian families in the .north) and Dr. Marji, who has since gone back to teaching at Yarmouk University, Dr. Abu Shaar, a long-time Irbid surgeon, without ideological or political background, also claims the support of both Dr. Marji and his family.



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م ملذا صد الأصل

U.N. study: Women, children most exploited workers in Asia's cities

- Women and children are the most exploited workers in Asia's cities, both in indus-trialising and low-income countries. a United Nations study says.

The common traits of women and children's work. the study says. "are to be found neither in the sector. occupation, size of firm or income of its owner, but rather in extreme exploitation marked by long hours and harsh working conditions. physical and sexual abuse and critical poverty."

The report on the critical problems of Asia's cities was presented at a meeting this week organised by the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

At Tuesday's conclusion, 36 countries signed a declaration of general guidelines on easing these problems, including a recommendation that they enhance urban productivity by

removing regulatory constraints on efficient use of land. labour and financial markets.

Significant numbers of working children are found in both the highest and lowest income namons, the study says.
"Throughout Asia, urban.

children under age 15 are found in debilitating forms of work that not only keep them in poverty, but are hazardous to life, it says.

In most countries, it adds. they provide significant portions of labour in activities such as scavenging vending. textile and garment production and, increasingly, prostitution.

Children in India start working in industrial activities at ages as young as five, and it is estimated that a fourth of the national labour force consists of children under 14, the study

It says most never learn to read and write, are treated as bonded rather than salaries workers, and get extremely

low pay for demanding work including brick-laying at con-

struction sites. In India and elsewhere, the study says. women are among the most vulnerable workers because many are self-employed or do work as home. such as processing raw malerials delivered to them by mid-

In Pakistan, women are concentrated in home-based work partly because of social and religious custom that limits their activities outside the home. They have no access to credit. materials. markets. technology and information that could increase their pro-

In Asia, economic growth has rapidly increased the number of women who do semiskilled jobs for wages. Women comprise 80 per cent or more of the work force in such export-oriented industries as textiles and semiconductor assembly operations in Asia, the

Tunisia cuts olive oil producer prices

TUNIS (R) - Tunisia cui olive oil producer prices by up to 24 per cent and said Wednesday it expected the new season's production to be 48 per cent higher than last

The government says the cuts are due to tumbling inter-national market prices. Tunisia is the world's second largest exporter of olive oil and the fourth producer.

The producer price for low grade oil will be 1,055 dinars (\$1,055) a tonne compared with 1,390 (\$1,390) last year, a cabinet statement said.

For extra fine oil, the new price is 1,390 dinars (\$1,390) compared with 1.750 (\$1,750)

Ali Ouled Ali, head of the agriculture ministry's olive growing department, told Reuters that production in the 1993/1994 season starting this month would rise to 200,000 tonnes from 135,000 tonnes last year.

"Reduction of producer prices is caused by abundant production while prices on the international market are falling down." Mr. Ouled Ali said. In some cases prices had fallen by 40 ner cent compared to the

IBM agents seek major computer deal with

ABU DHABI (AFP) - Gulf agents of U.S. computer giant IBM are negotiating to clinch a deal with he PLO to compute-rise the Palestinian administration under autonomy olans, the agents said Tuesday.

Tunisia's main market is the Gulf Business Machines (GBM) hopes it will be awarded the project to install computers at Palestinian administrative departments when they are created in Gaza Strip the West Bank town of renewed if not increased for 1994 during the EC-Tunisia Jericho, GBM Manager Mus-tafa Rajbani told AFP.

"We are holding negotia-tions with the PLG economic department for a major automation projects in Palestinian government institutions," he subsidy to Tunisian farmers said. "We hope we will win the because EC producers, led by contract because we are an Arab company and should be duce enough olive oil to satisfy

given priority by the PLO." GBM is the sole agent of the Armonk. New York-based In-ternational Business Machines Corp. (IBM) in the Gulf and is the biggest computer company in the region, where the com-puter market is estimated at around \$2 billion a year.

Mr. Rajbani, interviewed by telephone from an international computer show in Dubai, said his Bahrain-based company planned to open centres in the autonomous areas, which have been under Israeli occupation since 1967.

Jordanian banks Mr. Rajbani said his company was also negotiating with the British Grindlays Bank, the Arab Bank, Jordan Bank

and other banking units in the region to serve them when they open branches in Gaza and Nissan reports

large loss

TOKYO (AP) - Nissan Motor Co., Japan's No. 2 automaker, reported a net loss of 32.8 billion yen (\$306 million) in the first half of the fiscal year. It blamed the high yen and sluggish demand.

Nissan's parent company loss for the half-year ending Sept. 30 deepened from losses of 21.99 billion yen (\$205 million) in the same period a year

It was the latest reflection of the worst downturn in decades for Japan's auto industry.

makers have been taking costcutting measures such as job reductions, cuts in worker bonuses and mandatory vacations. They have also been moving more production overseas to try to escape high yenfueled operating costs at home.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY NOVEMBER 4, 1993 By Thomas S Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: As the Moon trines the Sun and Mercury you will have every opportunily to clear up whatever appears mysterious and to get yourself nominated as the logical eader for that social project that will serve others.

ARTES: (March 21 to April 19) Your standing in the outside world should occupy your thoughts today for you should be able to uncover some means to increase publie acclaim.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Take some time out to consider some advanced methods by which you will be able 10 see nities facing you from an enlarged viewpoint.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Studying whatever periodicals are available that can add to your present material well being is a good path to pursue for attaining MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 10

July 21) Think over persons of a mundane trend turn of mind for they can be the best source of more success for you with vital undertaking.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You like to be belpful to those less fortunate and this is an excellent day and evening to spend availoble time being of service to other persons.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You have the day now to

arrange for whatever interesting during the coming days as well as enjoying recreations right mass. LIBRA: (September 21 to Octo-ber 22] A good day to spend at your residence getting everything their in ship shape and deciding what you can do to enhance the well heing at your home.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Think out a course of action whereby you can use the time in the outside world during the coming days to better advantage, consult allies before

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Even though with this day the aspects are fine for you to consider just what you can do to have more of this worlds goods by your efforts. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Your best gift is in organising conditions and today find you ahle to use this talent to

find ways to bring things you want most to yourself. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) You like to dwell in the realm of the idealistic but loday is your time to get into the nitty gritty of whatever opportunities face you.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) A good day to imo with a group of persons from whom you can learn much in the lines of interests that are most important

France debates shorter work week

PARIS (R) - With one eye on Volkswagen. France is debating whether a radical cut in the work week would save jobs and bring down record unemployment, but the ruling conservative parties are deeply split on the idea.

The French senate will this week discuss an amendment to the government's employment bill encouraging company-bycompany negotiations on shorter working hours, leading eventually to a four-day, 32hour week.

Senator Gerard Larcher, of Prime Minister Edouard Balladur's Gaullist RPR Party, has offered a proposal under which a 32-hour week would be compensated by lower social securtty payroll, deductions and a cut in salary of about seven per

The opposition Socialist Party, the minority CFDT trade union, and some, although not all, of the Rally for the Republic (RPR) back variations on this "work-shaning" principle.

ASHGABAT, Turkmenistan

(R) - Uzbekistan said Tues-

day it was taking steps to inte-

grate its economy with that of

neighbouring Kazakhstan and

the two Central Asian coun-

tries would issue a joint curren-

Deputy Prime Minister Baktiar Hamidov, quoted by

foreign minister spokesman

attached unreasonable condi-

tions to Uzbekistan's entry into

Labour Minister Michel Giraud. an RPR memher, opposed the amendment when it was first put forward in the

national assembly last month. But stung by charges that his own reform package was too timid to dent France's 11.8 per cent johless rate, he has since said he is prepared to encourage experiments with shorter

The debate is being con-. ducted with a close eye on Germany, France's biggest economic partner, where recession-stricken car giant Volkswagen A.G. last week gave unions the choice of a four-day week with a 20 per cent pay cut or axeing 30,000

The French government's divisions were highlighted by a virulent article by Small Busi-ness Minister Alain Madelin in the conservative daily Le Figaro Tuesday.

Mr. Madelin, an ultra-liberal advocate of deregulation, said

are enslaving," Mr. Ruziev,

reached by telephone from

Ashgabat, quoted Mr. Hami-

stan are planning now to intro-

duce a common currency," he

date for the introduction of the

proposed new currency and did

not say what it would be called.

Mr. Ruziev said it was not

clear if any firm bilateral

agreement had been signed be-

tween the former Soviet Re-

Mr. Hamidov did not give a

"Uzbekistan and Kazakh-

dov as saying.

"The conditions of Russia publics.

history proved that cutting working hours did not create

He cited the former Socialist government's reduction of the work week to 39 hours and introduction of a fifth week of annual holiday to buttress his

"It is stupefying how much attention is being given to this idea which defies common sense... it is blindingly obvious that working less won't get us out of trouble." said Mr. Madelin, a member of the centre-right Union for French Democracy (UDF).

He noted that the industrialised countries with the lowest unemployment rates - the United States and Japan were those where people worked far more hours per year thana in Europe,

Mr. Madelin said German leaders were now rueing as "the mistake of the century" an agreement with the metalworkers' union to move to a

Uzbekistan integrating economy with Kazakhstan

of the plan.

A presidential spokesman in

But a senior Kazakh govern-

ment minister Monday ex-

pressed similar bitterness over

new-style rouble zone.

Russia's terms for joining the

First Deputy Prime Minister

Daulet Sembayev spoke then in terms of Kazakhstan press-

ing ahead with plans to intro-

duce its own currency, to be

called the tenge, by January.

Uzbekistan, with a popula-

Kazakhstan, reached by tele-

phone, said be had not heard

35-hour week.

President Francois Mitterrand gave his hlessing to the principle of shorter working hours in a television interview last week but said it was up to workers and employers to negotiate and the state could not impose a solution.

"We must find new ways." Mr. Mitterrand said, "The debate on job-sharing and a reduction in working hours is a good debate."

A group of 28 conservative members of parliament issued a joint statement Tuesday denouncing the Larcher amend-"A 32-hour week is not like-

ly to resolve the problem of

unemployment and seems more likely to worsen it." they The government should try instead to maximise job creation by fighting rigidities in the

labour market and removing

constraints on small

tion of 22 million, ranks fourth

in the world for cotton produc-

Kazakhstan, a huge land stretching from the Volga Riv-

er to the Chinese border, is

rich in oil and has nuclear

weapons on its soil. Its popula-

Both nations had made pre-

liminary agreements with Rus-

sia to be included in the zone

of countries which might use

roubles issued by Moscow ear-

now both use old roubles

Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan

tion is around 17 million.

tion and eighth for gold.

businesses, they said.

Iran devalues riyal again

Surplus stocks have become

Mr. Ouled Ali said they

were now at "more than 100,000 tonnes." Traders gave a figure at 140,000 tonnes. Mr. Ouled Ali said Tunisia

exported 130,000 tonnes last

season compared to official

European Community, which

imports a quota of 46,000 ton-

nes a year, fixed in 1985 under

an agreement which has been

negoriations starting next week in Brussels, Mr. Ouled Ali

The quota is tantamount to a

Spain and Italy, already pro-

But Mr. Ouled Ali said EC

subventions to European ex-

porters of olive oil, up to

\$1,000 to \$1,200 a tonne, made

it difficult for Tunisia to be

competitive on international

Community demand.

The quota was likely to be

renewed every year.

forecasts of 90,000 tonnes.

a nightmare for Tunisia.

NICOSIA (R) - Iran devalued the riyal against the dollar Wednesday for the third consecutive day, adding to tur-moil in Iran's foreign exchange market. The central bank set the dollar at 1,663/1,665 riyals. against 1,628/1,630 Tuesday, a devaluation of 2,1034 per cent. Other major currencies were

similarly marked up. There are many buyers (of dollars), but sellers are hesitant, figuring the dollar might go even higher." said Alt Pakpour, an Iranian money dealer in London.

He said a confused riyal market was waiting for clues and he knew of no deals made in Europe Wednesday morn-ing. Cash dollars were traded at 1,700 to 1.720 riyals in Tehran, up to 40 riyals above

Tuesday's close, he said. Mr. Pakpour said that after several months of relative stability for the riyal the central bank was now devaluing to raise more nyals..

issued before 1993. These are

not legal tender in Russia and

have been losing value against

the dollar, raising inflation and

causing a host of economic

enslaving conditions demanded by Russia, Mr. Hamidov said Moscow had said any new

roubles delivered to Uzbekis-

tan would be given as credits.

roubles would have to be back-

ed by Uzbek gold and the new

roubles would be exchanged at

a rate of one new rouble to 2.5.

Fifty per cent of the new

Listing what he called the

problems.

The car companies woes mirror the overall state of the country's economy. Japan has been unable to shake off a persistent slowdown, and top government officials suggest a recovery is not likely to take hold until next year.

The major Japanese autoearly and harmonise with them

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY NOVEMBER 5, 1973 By Thomas S. P. arson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: With the Moon in Leo aspecting Pluto, Venus, Mars and Jupiter you can bet it is going to be a busy Friday with many unusual twists and turns. Avoid tifts and problems with close ties and co-

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Get into the various outside activities to be done early and then you can consider how to obtain your hopes and wishes in a more colourful fashion.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You can be direct about business persons in getting their practical suggestions early in the day while later don't commit yourself without much thought.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21). State straight forwardly your views to a dynamic associate and get his/her support before you. start putting any joint arrange-ments ioto execution. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to

July 21) You can make a great start at whatever activities of work nature face you even though later outside duties then claim your attention. LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Whatever you have in mind where your particular aptitudes

are concerned can be worked out to your satisfaction then later bury yourself in routine tasks.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) You can get into various' standpoints of family members

while later it is advisable to be thoughtful of your mate. LIBRA: (September 23 to Octo-

ber 22) You cao get much of value achieved during the day-time in huddles with usual allies but then later make sure you do not invite contentious person into your home.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) A flash of good judgment about what to do regarding money or property is yours early in the day after which make a point to use care on the high way.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Go after what you want in a confident and lirect manner after which it is advisable that you use care in anything that concerns your property.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You see good ways to business private ideas across io anead so found them out while later you need to see, be with only proven friends. AQUARIUS: (January 21 to

February 19) You can be just as social as you wish in the morning so see or contact good friends after which you need to tise above tendencies to be de-

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Whatever you have in mind of a worldly nature should be put into motion before noon for then you find that personal wishes take precedence

Zafar Ruziev, told a news conference in the Uzbek capital, Tashkent, that Russia had

a new rouble zoné.

Peanuts









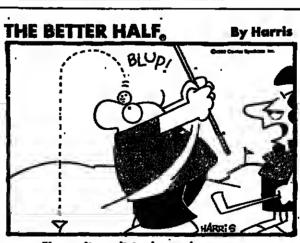
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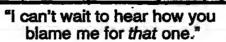
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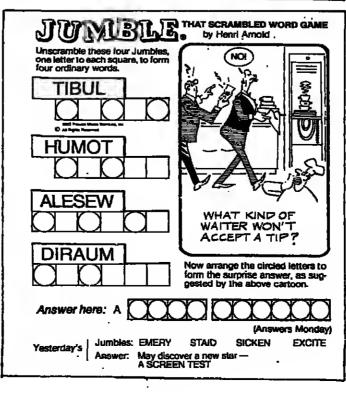


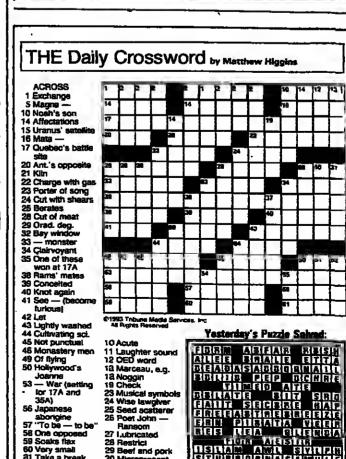
Mutt'n'Jeff









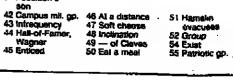


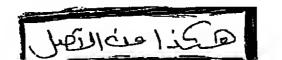
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Financial Markets

GRAPD TOTAL

Jordan Times



in co-operation with Cairo Amman Bank U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	NewYork Close Date	Singapore Close
Sterling Pound	1,4735	1,4777
Deutsche Mark	1.7033	1,7020
Swiss Franc	1,5085	1,5055
French Franc	5,9325	6,9295 **
Jupunese Yen	107.75	107,82 **
European Current Cuit	1,1260	1,1273
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U.S. Dollar	3.03	3,37	3,40	3, 62
Sterling Found	5,81	5,62	5,56	5,50
Deutsche Mark	6,43	6,37	6,00	5.62
Swiss Franc	4.56	4,43	4,25	4.00
French Franc	6.88	6,68	6,25	5,88
Jabaniese Jun	2,37	2,25	2,12	2,12
European Currence Unit	7,06	7,13	6,98	6,43

Precious R	locals			Date: 3/1	171992
Metal	USD Oz	JD:Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD:Gm
Gold	447.45	7,20	Silver	4.22	J100

	Dates		
Currency	Bid	Offer	
U.S. Dollar	0,700	0,702	
Sterling Pound	1,0329	1,0381	
Deutsche Mark	0.4107	0,4128	
Subs Franc	0.4645	3800,50	
French Franc	0,1179	0,1185	
Japanese Yen	0.6487	6.6410	
Datch Guilder	0,3668	0,3576	
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Belgian Franc			

	Bid	Offe
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Granteps	O , i bit	0,9234
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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for feating world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession for the builting markets. on the London Foreign Exchange and bullinn markets

Sing 181 (6) 3.41

1.308578 U.S. \$1.00 ands 1,647,1430 1,4050.60 1 5030 40 W 25 27 5 41 312 31 [639.8.1.3 107.6. 77 F 1400 (M) 7 1681180 6.7825.25 \$1.479191

One miner of gold

Canadian dollar Deutschemarks Dutch guilders Swiss francs Belgian francs French tranes Italian lire Jacanese yen Swedish crowns Norwegian crowns Danish crowns

Arab states urged | Jordan-Gulf Bank recovers completely to learn from Asia

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AFP) - The World Bank wants Arab states to learn from Asian nations in their bid to tackle persistent economic problems and cut reliance nn forcign markets.

In a study presented Tuesday to an investment conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE), the World Bank said economic reforms in most Arab countries were slow while investment was facing hurdles in the technology-hungry Gulf states.

"When we talk to officials for example in Egypt or Jordan about the need to accelerate reforms, they compare themselves with their situation in the past and say they have made great achievements." the bank said. "But in fact, they are lagging behind because such moves in the world, especially in Asia, are not walking but running. In comparison. there is a big distance between Arab countries and South East Asian nations.

Egypt, Jordan and other Arab states have launched reforms to heal their economies, which are reeling under sharp debt. slow growth, high unemployment. poor investments and deficits in the budget and balance of payments.

Some of them have reported progress by cutting the deficit and boosting investment. But the debt has persisted, standing at \$152 billion.

In Egypt, it shrank to nearly \$40 billion from \$55 billion

after Gulf states and other creditors wrote off part of the debt to reward Cairo for its role in the anti-Iraqi coalition during the 1991 war for

Kuwait "The economic success in all sectors is not only a financial issue but a clear political and scientific process." said the World Bank paper, presented by Ghassan Aranut of the bank's Middle East section.

"Arab states should look at the record success realised ed by Malaysia. After it depended by 90 per cent on exporting raw materials in 1968, 90 per cent of its exports now are manufac-.tured products. "If this country maintains current growth rates, then it will overtake industrial nations in 15 years." he pointed out.

But the study saw good economic prospects in Morocco and Tunisia, which it said were surpassing other Arab states in

"These two countries could be considered as promising as they are more advanced in reforms and because of their planned agreement with the European Community in 1994 to set up a free trade zone." it said.

While oil-rich Gulf states were more attractive for foreign investment because of their modern infrastruerure and liberal economies, the study criticised conditions stipulating foreigners must have a local partnership of at least 51 per

dinars (\$21.4 million). A public offering raised a further five AMMAN (R) — The Jordan-

Gulf Bank has successfully recapitalised after the central bank agreed to provide longterm credit to cover \$86 million of bad loans.

"All the classified loans which were not covered by the provisions and were accumulated by the bank have now been covered by the central bank," Mohamamd Jamjoum, newly elected general manager of Jordan-Gulf Bank, told Reuters.

Arab and Jordanian private investors injected 15 million million dinars (\$7.16 million) for a total paid up capital of 20 million dinars (\$28.6 million). Saudi investors now own 10

per cent of the bank. Mr. Jamjoum said an agreement at the end of last month with the central bank provided 44 million dinars (\$63 million) of credit to be repaid over 25 years on soft terms, with a three-year grace period.

The central bank had run the bank since August 1989 when it got into trouble because of

debts accumulated during a period of easy credit that caused other bank failures. It has handed over nperations to

The Jordan-Gulf Bank deal is the first restructuring of a bank under direct central bank intervention since Petra Bank, one of the country's leading banks, collapsed in 1989 amid

a new board of directors.

fraud charges.

Jordan-Gulf Bank had accumulated 40 million dinars (\$57.3 million) in debts, mostly on loans with insufficient collateral and 20 million dinars

(\$28.6 million) in suspended interest.

The bank, which was formed in 1977, has recently absorbed the Syrian-Jordanian Bankand Al Mashreq Bank, Al Mashreq had four branches in the West

Bank before 1967, Mr. Jamjoum said this would provide a foothold in the Israeli-occupied territories once approval was given for Jordanian banks with pre-1967 branches to resume opera-

tions. The bank, with 32 branches, has assets of 126 million dinars

Oman-India gas pipeline feasible

NEW DELHI (R) - The Oman government has told India that a deep-water gas pipeline between the two countries across the Arabian Sea was technically feasible. Indian Petroleum Minister Satish Sharma said Wednesday. India said last September that engineers were surveying two possible routes from Oman across the Arabian Sea - one deep sea, the other along the continental shelf. The two countries signed a memorandum of understanding on the project in March. "The Oman government has conveyed that it was technically feasible to lay the gas pipeline from Oman to India through the deep sea route." Mr. Sharma told a group of members of parlia-

up export finance body ABU DHABI | R) — The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is

trying to pump life into anaemic non-oil trade by setting up an export finance organisation and laws to protect industries, an official said Wednesday

Abdullah Al Quwaiz, GCC assistant secretary-general for economic affairs, told repor-ters the six GCC states were seeking a painless way to finance exports to their main trading partners the United States, Japan and the European Community (EC).

"There is GCC consensus to set up a new export finance system," he said. "But Iwe have) to find a way which would not financially strap members.

Club Restaurant

Dinner

ITALIAN

unch

He said the GCC may seek the help of banks or privatise any export finance organisarion to boost GCC non-oil ex-

Arab Gulf states to set

Sheikh Quwaiz spoke to reporters after meeting GCC deputy ministers to prepare for negotiations next year with the United States, Japan and the

The GCC is trying to increase exports to the three key partners to develop local industries. Its deficit in non-oil trade with Japan was about \$2 billion in the first half of 1993. The more than \$36 billion in EC-GCC bilateral trade was

tipped in Europe's favour in

Industry ministers from United Arab Emirates. Qatar. Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, and Kuwait are expected to endorse the two measures when they meet in Abu Dhabi next week

Sheikh Quwaiz said the regional alliance was also chalking out a plan to boost foreign investment in the GCC and guarantee exports of key products such as petrochemicals.

The GCC is seeking dutyfree access for its petrochemicals in EC and U.S. markets.

Sheikh Ouwaiz said the export finance system and the industrial protection draft laws would allow the GCC to implement its common industrial strategy to diversify oil-based economies.

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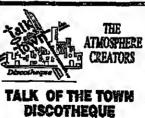






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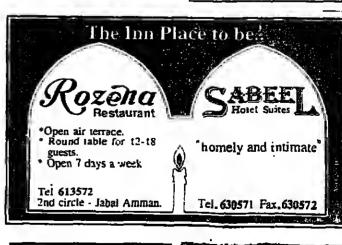




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Rapper gets

ATLANTA (R) - Hollywood rap artist Tupac Amaru Shakur was released on bail after being

charged with aggravated

assault for allegedly shooting two off-duty policemen in downtown Atlanta. The offic-

ers and their wives were cros-

sing the street when a car

allegedly driven by Shakur

almost hit one of the women.

An argument ensued and police say several black men

got out of the cat just before

shooting starred. Shakur

gained fame when a man

listening to his music shot and

killed a Texas state trouper.

Lyrics such as "cops on my tail/they finally pull me over

and I laugh/remember Rodney

King/and I blast his punk ass'

led to demands it he with-

Wheel falls off

Indian plane. Only

passenger notices

NEW DELHI (R) - A wheel

fell off an Indian Airlines plane

as it was taking off and in insistent passenger had to con-

vince a sceptical pilot that

there was a problem, an airline

spokesman said Tuesday.

"Yes, it's true. We've ordered an inquiry," he said. The spokesman said one of the two

rear left wheels fell off Sunday

as the plane, carrying 126 pas-

sengers, took off from Nagpur on a flight to New Delhi.-It

landed safely, albeit tilted to the right, amid a full emergen-

cy operation. He said a passen-

ger seated on the rear left side

of the aircraft saw the wheel.

fall off and immediately in-

formed the pilot, who checked

his instruments and detected

no problem. Only when the.

agitated passenger kept on in-

sisting he had seen the wheel

fall off did the pilot make further checks and discover

did indeed have a problem, the

Fagins jailed for ...

LOS ANGELES (R) - Two

modern day fagins who re-

cruited young teenagers to rob

banks for them were sentenced

to lengthy prison terms Mon-,

bank robberies

sookesman said.

2 modern day

rapped as cops cop it

Russian forces authorised to make nuclear first strike

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Russia's armed forces are authorised to strike first with nuclear weapons in case of an external nuclear threat. Defence Minister Pavel Grachev said Wednesday in a major shift for

Soviet policy.
Mr. Grachev was giving details at a press conference of the military doctrine adopted Tuesday by the Russian Security Council.

He said that nuclear weapons could be used "first. in case of an attack by a (nonnuclear state) that is in alliance with a nuclear power against the Russian Federation. its territory, its armed forces and the troops of its allies."

in the second case, Russia could strike first "in case of a joint action by states possessing nuclear weapons to attack or sustain an offensive against Russia or its allies. Mr. Grachev said.

He said Russia's political aim in the area of nuclear arms was "to eliminate the threat of nuclear war and to have recourse to nuclear weapons as a means of dissuasion to prevent the extension of an aggression against the Russian Federation and its allies," in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

Henceforth, Russia no Ionger has a "potential enemy" as it did under former Soviet

ideology, he said. In principle, Russia will "not employ nuclear arms against another member of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty which does not itself possess nuclear weapons, except in the two cases cited," he said.

· Asked what had prompted was prepared before events

VISOKO. Bosnia-Hertzegovi-

na (AFP) - Bosnian Croat

forces have abandoned their

assigned to the Swedish U.N.

Protection Force (UNPRO-

FOR) unit in Vares, said the

Croats pulled out overnight

and were apparently heading

south, possibly through Serb

HVO (Croatian Defence Council) troops have left."

Captain Syokvist told an AFP

reporter in the nearby lown of

there were about 1,000 to 2,000 HVO in the Vares

UNPROFOR had estimated

The UNPROFOR officer

could not say when the Bos-

ntan army would move in. "but

I think it's a matter of a short

hub 30 kilometres north of

Sarajevo, had been threatened

by the Bosnian army's Second

Vares, a prosperous trading

"It looks like most of the

territory.

Visoko.

pocket.

the change from Soviet doctrine, which prohibited a first strike, the defence minister said the former Soviet Union was "another state, from another era.

He went on to rule out the possibility of the nonauthorised use of nuclear weapons, insisting the "system of controls is reliable.

"On person alone, even the president himself, cannot use a nuclear weapon," he said.

Mr. Grachev stressed that henceforth Russia considered that non-nuclear regional conflicts constituted the principal danger to its security.

The Russian army must pro-vide itself with 'offensive means" to curb a local war if necessary, he said, adding that Russia's main defence efforts would go towards forming a powerful "rapid action force" by the year 1996.

Russian plans to use its mobile force — which for the moment consists of former Soviet airborne troops, a helicopter regiment and the 27th Motorised Brigade - in. missions to separate belligerent

parties, he said. The defence minister also said the government would call on the army to help curb internal conflicts.

"Army units and other troops may be used, in collaboration with the Interior Ministry, to curb a conflict in a region, to prevent armed conflicts and separate adverse parties, as well as to defend sensitive targets, in accordance with the law," Mr. Grachev said, citing the new doctrine.

The new defence doctrine

last month when the army was called out to crush a rebellion by the parliament, he said, these events underscored the correctness of our

decision. Meanwhile, the bloody suppression of the parliamentary revolt by Russian troops a month ago is becoming a hot issue for debate ahead of the Dec. 12 general elections.

Questions are again being asked about the real death toll in the fighting of Oct. 3 and 4, with some suggesting that as many as 1,000 people died. Meanwhite Boris Yeltsin's

government has issued dire warnings of "provocations" by the armed opposition.

Little is expected to happen. however, on next Sunday's anniversary of the 1917 revolution that brought the Communists to power, the government having banned all demonstrations.

Communist organisations have said they will heed the ban, and warned that any troubles will be the government's

responsibility.
The hardline militants who were crushed by Mr. Yeltsin's tanks are largely dead or under arrest, but Moscow regional security chief General Yevgeni Savostianov predicted this week that armed rebels would rise again.

"It is clear that the resumption of their activity is inevitable." Gen. Savostianov told Izvestia in an interview published Monday, "The backers of the attempted coup of 1991 took four months to recover. but in the present case the process is being accelerated by the approach of the elections." Gen. Savostianov took the opportunity to demand that the security services have the automatic right to monitor the

activities of political parties.

President Yeltsin presented regional leaders with a draft new constitution Wednesday. making clear he would not allow constituent republics to secede from the Russian Fed-

In confident mood in the Kremlin's marble hall, Mr. Yeltsin told executive leaders of 89 republics and regions that they had to approve four controversial points in the constitution by the end of the day so it could be published by Nov. 10.

This would allow a clear month — the legal requirement - before a referendum on the new basic law for post-Soviet Russia, scheduled for

The first controversial point would allow ministers and regional administration chiefs to stand for parliament, something banned under the previous system.

The second point would give the 67 Russian regions the same legal status as the 21 ethnic-based republics. This was certain to anger some republic leaders, who want the greater rights of selfgovernment they had before.

The third point was removing any reference to the republics as "sovereign states" and the fourth was how a federative treaty, signed nearly two years ago to enshrines regional powers, should be brought into the constitution.



Flames crest the side on the mountains above Malibu as wildfires hit southern California again

California wildfires race into Malibu

MALIBU, Calif. (AP) - Savage winds sent waves of fire raging over canyon ranches and seaside mansions in this celebrity hideaway, forcing thousands to load up their Jaguars and jeeps and crowd onto gridlocked highways. It was southern California's

seventh day of wildfires. Twice in a week, firestorms have gutted whole neighbourhoods.

Two men were near death early Wednesday, more than 200 homes and other buildings were destroyed, and 20,000 acres of rugged canyon, pricev homes and sprawling horse ranches were black.

Flame-topped palm trees dotted the heavy smoke as the fire raced out of control from Santa Monica Mountain canyons 12 miles (19 kms) inland, to the edge of the Pacific Ocean.

"It just came thundering down. By the time I left, it looked like 'Apocalypse Now'," said writer Richard Christian Matheson, who believes his house burned after he fled.

Just off the beach, a Coast Guard cutter waited to evacate people by sea if necessary. Firefighters perched alop lifeguard towers to monitor the blaze.

· Chaos reigned at roadblocks along usually scenic Pacific coast highway. People trying to ger out vied for road space with drivers scrambling home after learning of the fire, Frantic, some abandoned their cars. trapping firetrucks in massive

traffic jams. On Wednesday, evacuees filled hotels in neighboring beach communities like Santa Monica and Marina Del Rev. standing on balconies, parks and piers to watch the flames and wonder about what they left behind.

About 130 sheriff's and highay officers patrolled empty Malibu streets to guard against looting of high-priced houses.

Elsewhere across southern California, several other fires erupted Tuesday and roared through brittle hrushland, just days after firestorms torched more than 800 buildings and hurned thousands of acres. A total of 17 people were injured Tuesday.

Fire threatened Pepperdine University and Hughes Re-

day as firefighters ran out of

University spakesman Jeff Bliss said about 500 students and staff remained sheltered in a campus gymnasium.

"We're staying here until the fire department tells us to

move." Mr. Bliss said. The Malibu fire, in western Los Angeles County, created a hillowing cloud of reddishbrown smoke visible 60 miles

The cause of the fire remained under investigation. Residents of Malibu Colony

 a private beachfront enclave of multimillion dollar homes owned by such stars as Sting, Boh Newhart, Burgess Meredith and Larry Hagman were ordered to leave, said fire deputy Benita Hinojos.

The fire erupted as hot, dry Santa Ana Winds gusting at up to 53 mph (85 kph) returned to southern California.

More than 3,000 firefighters battled the blaze in Malibu, a mile-wide city of 15,000 that winds along 27 beachfront

Aspin warns N. Korea, holds talks in Seoul

SEOUL (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Les Aspin held military talks with South Korean leaders Wednesday and warned North Korea it could be slapped with international sanctions if it did not give up a iest for nuclear weapons.

Mr. Aspin's threat against the North, issued in Tokyo before flying here for two days of annual defence meetings. was however vague and signalled reluctance by Washington and its Pacific allies to anger Pyongyang's unpredictable

In Seoul. Mr. Aspin met South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-Joo and Defence Minister Kwon Young-Hae. On Thursday, he holds talks with President Kim Young-

Mr. Aspin told a Tokyo news conference the U.S. strategy was to put diplomatic pressure on North Korea to stop rejecting international inspection of nuclear facilities and end speculation it is secret-

ly trying to huild nuclear arms. 'If the diplomatic alternative should fail, we would be ble options. One of those, of course, is the possibility of sanctions. Mr. Aspin said. But senior U.S. officials told

reporters travelling with Mr. other sanctions proposed by Washington and voted by the United Nations could devastate Pyongyang's staggering economy and spark "unpre-

were confirmed just hours after Mr. Aspin's arrival, when Pyongyang abruptly cancelled bilateral talks with South Korea which were due to have been held Thursday at the inter-Korean border village of Panmunjom.

North Korea said it was calling off the talks because of 'dangerous" remarks by Defence Minister Kwon.

The defence minister made dangerous and violent remarks during a special news conference on the eve of annual security talks (between the United States and South Korea) that they will not decline to use military action to deter nuclear

amounted to the rejection of working-level contacts under way to negotiate the exchange of special envoys." There was Aspin any trade, financial or, no immediate confirmation that Mr. Kwon had made the comments.

The North-South talks would have been the fourth in a series which started in October, aimed at agreeing un an exchange with resulving the nuclear dispute.

desired outcome?

Monday overwhelmingly passed a resolution urging North Korea to allow inspection of its nuclear facilities, especially a site at Yongbyon, 911 kilometres north of Pynngyang, by the International Atomic Energy Agency

fend the Georgian ports as part

of a joint mission of the Com-

monwealth of Independent

A Georgian freelance cam-

eraman working for the Lon-

don-based network Worldwide

Television News (WTN) has

reportedly been executed in Georgia after being charged with espionage. WTN said

Quoting reports from jour-

nalists in the area, WTN said

David Bolkvadze, 24, had

been arrested in the west

Georgian town of Khohi while

covering the conflict there. Mr. Bolkvadze 'is believed

to have been executed by

forces loyal to former Presi-

dent Zviad Gamsakhurdia af-

ter having been arrested on

charges of espionage."

said in a statement.

Wednesday.

for daytime stargazers

> astronomers are predicting a rare celestial event Saturday. when the planet Mercury will pass in front of the Sun. The 99-minute eclipse, starting at 0307 GMT, will be visible to the naked eye in Asia, East Africa, Eastern Europe, the Indian Ocean, Oceania and the Pacific, the Purple Mountain Observatory in Nanjing said Tuesday. The planet will be closest to the centre of the sun at 0356 GMT, or 11.56 a.m. m China, the official Xinkua News Agency quoted astronomers as saying. "Only when

Mercury orbits between the Earth and the sun can man see the planet as a small hlack spur-slowly passing in froot of the sun," the observatory said. The sight may not be very splendid but it is a significant

phenomenon in that it can be seen only 13 times in every 100 years." it said.

Tobacco heiress leaves \$1.2b

NEW YORK (R) - Theacco heiress Doris Duke, who died last week at the age of 80, left an estate of \$1.2 billion and directed that nearly all the money go to charity and none to an adopted daughter. I spokesman said Monday. The will also calls on long-time friend Imelda Marcos to pur back a \$5 million loan.

Georgians battle rebels in Khobi

cause of their problems lies in

Shevardnadze's policies." In-

terfax said, adding that several

units made up of a few

thousands men had been

rebels were holding the fami-

lies of refugees hostage and

promised to release them once

the men agreed to go to the

Meanwhile, Russian troops

dispatched to protect a vital

railway link in western Georgia

maintained their positions.

allowing a train carrying artil-

lery and soldiers to travel from

Senaki to Poti. the press centre

of Russian troops based in the

Transcaucasus said. according

Six ships from the Black Sea

Fleet were dispatched Tuesday

to Poti and to Batumi to de-

The report stated that the

MOSCOW (AFP) — Government troops battled Wednesday for control of the west Georgian town of Khobi amid reports that rebels were forcing refugees in Abkhazia to take up arms against Georgian lead-er Eduard Shevardnadze.

Georgian troops entered Khobi Tuesday but were unable to capture before nightfall the key town located about 15 kilometres from the rebel headquarters of Zugdidi, the Georgian Defence Ministry quoted by Interfax said.

The news agency quoted unofficial sources in Tbilisi as saying that rebels loyal to ousted President Zviad Gamsakahurdia had convinced tens of thousands of refugees from Abkhazia to rise up againsi Shevardnadze.

They are being told that the

The army had reached the

agreement with civilian Prime Minister Sylvie Kinigi, the top Burundian army will not stand in the way of an international official since soldiers assassinated President Melchior Ndadaye and six of his ministers. he said in a statement.

to Interfax.

formed.

Remnants of Mr. Ndadaye's government have been holed up at the French embassy in Oct. 21.

an estimated 1,000 foreign

the capital since the coup on

The surviving ministers have

said they will only come out if

Tutsi iribe, had previously opposed foreign troops intervening.

Members of the Tutsi tribe and of the majority Hutu have been massacring each other in Burundi since the coup. Mr. Ndadaye became the most

Vares threatened by a three-He said that at least 2.500 started Monday at the moun-Croat refugees streamed out of tain resort of Beitostoelen. pronged attack by troops of the the town in the face of the Muslim-led Sarajevo governnear Fagernes. threatened attack by the Bos-At a press conference the ment, U.N. military officials said Wednesday. Croats and Serbs blamed each Captain Stefan Sjyokvist.

Stupni Do. But in Sarajevo, Ray Wil-

fields and forests.

ment on a ceasefire. "I am very disappointed. We were so close to a ceasefire," United Nations mediator Knut Vollebaek, assistant to U.N. mediator Thorvald Stoltenberg

Corps from the west, and elements of the Sixth Corps from central Bosnian stronghold of the south.

nian army coming 11 days after a massacre by HVO troops in the nearby Muslim village of

kinson, a spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), put the number of refugees at 15,000. He said 5,000 were blocked in a quarry in Dastanko, east

had fled into neighbouring In Oslo, peace talks between the Croatian government and leaders of the breakaway Serb region of Krajina ended

of Vares, and 10,000 others

Wednesday, without agreetold reporters at Fagernes. 250

Corps from the north. Third flight for Yugoslavia, Mr. Vollebaek said the talks would continue, "but not today", The secret negotiations

Bosnian Croats abandon town as Muslims advance

other for the deadlock.

The head of the Serbian delegation, self-styled President. of Krajina, Goran Hadzic, said the two sides had almost agreed on a ceasefire, to be followed by political and econew instructions from Croatian President Franjo Tudjman

Tuesday completely jammed the talks. Meanwhile, Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou suggested in Brussels Wednesday that United Nalions economic sanctions against Serbia

and Montenegro were unfair. He said: "It is becoming more and more evident that sanctions imposed against Serbia and Montenegro penalise only one part (of ex-Yugoslavia) even though it has proved ils willingness to find a solution kilometres northwest of Oslo. As the two parties boarded a to the problem.

Mr. Papandreou was speaking in an interview with the Belgian newspaper Le Soir. He said Greece wanted to develop a "coherent (Balkan) policy for the European Community during the Greek stint as EC president from January to

"We have a particular interest to fully support efforts for establishing peace in ex-Yugoslavia and for stability and cooperation. Mr. Papan-dreou said.

He added: "Our ambition is lo exploit the fact that Greece is a Balkan member of the

European Community. The Greek prime minister showed little sign of bending in the row between Athens and the ex-Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia over its choice of a name, which is the same as that of a northern Greek province.

"The future of our relations with that state depends directly on its willingness to abandon its intransigent and provocative behaviour which consists of usurping a Greek name and Greek symbols, and refusing to recognise existing borders, Mr. Papandreou said.

dictable" action. Their fears of retaliation

Mr. Aspin said after meetings with Japanese officials in Tokyo that Washington, Japan and South Korea were discussing the nuclear threat from North Korea and several ques-

tions must be answered hefore resorting to sanctions: "Are they appropriate? Would they work? Would they result in the The U.N. General Assembly

licans swept to three dramatic victories Tuesday night, oustdevelopment. a North Koand Minneapolis led a long list looking at several other possirean statement said. ing New Jersey Gov. Jim Florof open mayoral contests and the incumbent in Hartford.

io and New York City Mayor David Dinkins and wresting the top job in Virginia from Democratic hands as well. Christie Whitman won by a razor-thin margin in New Jersey, denying Florio a second term. The New York

NEW YORK (AP) - Repub-

ly winning his rematch against Mr. Dinkins. There was no such drama in Virginia, where Republican George Allen beat Democrat Mary Sue Terry 58 per cent to 41 per cent and ended 12 years of Democratic rule in Rich-

race was another cliffhanger.

with Rudolph Giuliani narrow-

mond. The GOP triumphs were: the latest in a series of electoral embarrassments for President Bill Clinton and his party just a year after his White House victory.
Ms. Whitman, who made an

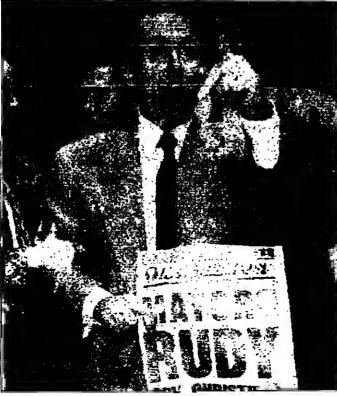
issue of Mr. Florio's record \$2.8 billion tax increase enacted in 1990, said her election "sent a message right across this nation Hours earlier in Richmond,

former Congressman Allen claimed victory in a race he began as a huge underdog.

The people have demanded honest leadership from their Virginia government and they'll get it." Mr. Allen told

cheering supporters. With those verdicts in. Mr. Dinkins was the Democrats' last-gasp hope for blocking a GOP sweep in the night's big

three contests. At midnight, Mr. Dinkins had a tiny lead, but it quickly evaporated - taking the



Republicans sweep in N. Jersey, Virginia and NYC

New York City Mayor-Elect Rudolph Giuliani points to supporters while holding a newspaper proclaiming him the winner of the mayoral race over incumbent Democrat David

Democrats' hopes with it. With 100 per cent of the New York vote in. Mr. Giuliani won 51

per cent to 48 per cent. Mr. Giuliani, claiming victory after a campaign in which race was a frequent issue, told supporters: "It is time to heal... No ethnic, religious or racial group will escape my concern, my care and my

attention. Mr. Dinkins' supporters

chanted "recount" as he delivered his concession speech. but he urged them to cooper-

ate with Mr. Giuliani, "We must help him be as good a mayor as he can." Mr. Dinkins said. "We must reject the notion that what has happened today is anything other than a fair and forthright call

for change. Even beyond New York, the natiun's city halls saw dramatic

turnover, as Boston, Detroit, Pittsburgh, Atlanta, Miami Connecticut, was ousted. In all, there were race or

ballot questions in 29 states. In a warning to incumbents, term limits were endorsed by voters in Maine and New York City. And anxiety about crime was evident in Texas, where voters approved a \$1 billion bond issue to build more prisons.

The crime and tax debates collided in California, where voters chose whether to adopt a permanent halfpenny sales tax and dedicate the money to local police and fire depart-

California voters rejected a school voucher proposal, and gay rights laws were repealed Cincinnati and Lewiston, Maine. The three big democratic defeats came on the heels of

three others for the party since Mr. Clinton won last year's presidential race: Senate races in Georgia and Texas, and the Los Angeles mayor's race. "The Democrats like to say ail politics is local." said National Republican Chair-man Haley Barbour. "Well. we learned again that. locally.

lar president. A somber Democratic chairman, David Wilhelm attribuiled the defeats to a clamouring for change — the dynamic that benefited Mr. Clinton a year ago. "It was a good night for Republicans, but there will he other elections and we will

Mr. Clinton is a very unpopu-

Burundi government, army agree on troops BUJUMBURA (RI - The

force to protect ministers who survived a coup which later collapsed, the army said Wednesday. "It is the government's pre-rogative and we are only an

element of the legitimate government. That is our agreement," said army spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Jean Bosco Daradangwa.

troops are deployed to protect

The army, controlled by the relatively small but powerful

Hutu president of Burundi after he was elected in June.

day after pleading guilty to robbery, conspiracy and car-

jacking. Robert Brown; 23. was sentenced to 30 years in federal prison by U.S. District Judge Stephen Wilson and his partner, 24-year-old Donzell Thompson, received a 25-year term. Both meo were members' of the Rollin Sixties' Crips Street Gang. Prosecutors said Brown had been implicated in . 175 robberies over a four-year period making him the all-time bank robbery champion of America. Like the fictional Fagin who taught young boys to pick pockets in Charles Dickens' Oliver Twist, Brown

and Thompson were never at the scene of the crimes. Instead they directed the robberies from stolen cars cruising in the area and met with their young accomplices later to split the proceeds. The previous bank robbery record had been held by Edwin Dotson, dubbed

1983 and 1984. Mercurial treat

the "Yankee Bandit" because

he wore a New York Yankees

baseball cap, who robbed 64

banks in southern California in

BEIJING (R) - Chines

NBA enters post-Jordan era

WASHINGTON (AFP) — The sudden departure of Michael Jordan is either the end of an era of a new lease on life for the National Basketball Association (NBA).

Jordan's stunning announcement on Oct. 6, that he would not be leading Chicago's bid for a fourth straight NBA title when the season starts Friday, prompted talk of tragedy among NBA fans and even some league insiders.

Commissioner David Stern, however, was not among the doom

"What happened to Drazen Petrovic and Reggie Lewis were tragedies," Stern said, referring to the deaths of two star players this summer. "What happened to Magic Johnson was very sad.
"What happened with Michael is good for Michael."
And good for the New York Knicks, the Cleveland Cavaliers,

the Phoenix Suns and a host of young players vying to inherit Jordan's role as the undisputed superstar of the NBA. While the marketing men wring their hands in despair at the

loss of the NBA's most valuable asset, coaches around the league are rubbing their hands in glee.

The Cavaliers, for instance, have been beaten by Chicago in the playoffs four times since 1988, twice on last-second shots by

"A lot of teams have been haunted by Michael Jordan, not just the Cleveland Cavaliers," said Mike Fratello, the Cavs new coach. "No one in the league was able to dethrone bim. Without Jordan's Bulls in the way. The New York Knicks are

clear favourites to go all the way.

The Knicks, who fell to Chicago in the NBA east playoffs in the

last two years, have a potential most valuable player in Patrick Ewiog and the best defence in the league.
"We aspire to the title." coach Pat Riley said cautiously, "but it is a mistake to assume it is going to be easy just because Michael Lordon has raised." Jordan has retired."

His players are less circumspect.
When you set lofty goals, you set yourself up for a fall, said guard Doc Rivers. But I would rather have it that way." Bulls coach Phil Jackson is counting on Scottie Pippen to step

into the vacuum created by Jordan's exit. He could also benefit from some quick learning by NBA newcomer Toni Kukoc.

As soon as Jordan retired, bookmakers dropped Chicago's odds of repeating as champions from 5-2 to 25-1.

"We're a longer shot than the Las Vegas oddsmakers have made us," Jackson said.

Chicago's period of adjustment will also give breathing room to the east's expansion teams.

Charlotte, considered expansion upstarts when they reached the playoffs this season, can be expected to do so again, led by second-year pro Alonzo Mourning, who has obviously taken to heart the lessons of his mentor, Ewing.

The new Jersey Nets and the Boston Celtics must rebuild skills and spirits after the deaths of Petrovic and Lewis. The Celtics also lost Larry Bird to retirement.

In the west, Charles Barkley has proclaimed 1993-94 bis last season, and he desperately wants to retire with a championship

But his Suns came close to losing to the Los Angeles Lakers early in last year's playoffs, and their path to the finals this season

The Houston Rockets also have a player with a powerful championship aspirations in Nigerian Hakeem Olajuwon.

The Seattle supersonics boast a roster so deep and versatile that coach George Karl probably cannot put a poor team on the floor. Last season the Sonics led the league in steals, forcing turnovers and point differential. If they can up their scoring, they will pose a real threat.

The Portland Trail Blazers need a good year from Clyde Drexler if they want to go far.

Drexler has recovered from knee injuries that bothered him last year, but he has already skipped a practice this year to lobby for a contract extension which Portland management declined to give

While some veterans are haggling over cootract extensions, clutch of rookies come into the league as multi-millionaires, and it will be interesting to see if they earn their pay.

Anfernee Hardaway, Shawn Bradley and Chris Webber all signed cootracts worth more than \$40 million each before playing

"These contracts are very dangerous," said Milwaukee coach Mike Dunleavy. "Teams are playing Russian Roulette giving \$60 to \$70 million contracts to players who have not really proved themselves. Some of them are going to be mistakes.

Bad boy trainer makes good; eyes Breeders Cup

ARCADIA, California (R) — Bobby Frankel may be the best trainer of thoroughbreds never to have won a Breeders' Cup race, but he is determined to change that Saturday when he sends five horses to the starting

Frankel, with close to \$7 million in purses, is heavily. fambured to win this year's Eclipse Award as the nation's leading trainer, but he did not always command respect among horse racing's aris-

Back in the late 1960s, with the flavour of the New York streets still in him, Frankel couldn't get an invitation to sweep an owner's tack room, much less train one of his royally-bred nags.

In those days Frankel was known as "that foulmouthed street kid from Queens," a moniker that might get you a punch in the mouth if you called him that to his face.

Some 25 years later, a kinder, gentler Frankel at 52 will saddle five horses in the Breeders' Cup series including the three-horse entry of Marquet-Missionary Ridge, and probable race favourite Bertrando in the classic.

Frankel will also saddle the filly Toussaud in the Breeders' Cup mile, and Luazur in the

Breeders' Cup turf. It's a long way from the Stridy Pallor of New York's Aqueduct Racetrack to the swaying palms of Santa Anita Park but the kid from Queens has adjusted nicely.
"Sometimes it's hard to be-

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

Both vulnerable. South deals.

* K 10 5 2 V A Q 6 3 V A K 4

EAST

West North East

ing lead: Queen of +

you've ever seen that was not due to a misplay by someone?" asks a read-er. That reminded us of this hand

from a rubber bridge game some

tears ago. Worth's reverse bid of two spades

created a game force. Thus, North

could afford to rebid only three dis-monds next to leave maximum room

Opening lead: Queen of •
"What is the cheapest trick

♦ 9 7 8 3 ♥ J 10 8 5 4 ♦ Void

A 1062

485

◆ K 3

Pass Pass

WEST

2 2 NT

0 Q J 10 3

QJ974 SOUTH

GOREN BRIDGE

CHEAP, CHEAP, CHEAP

lieve I've come this far." Frankel said while applying compresses to a small cut on Marquetry's upper lip. "Back in the early days it was hard to see past Aqueduct. I'm a lucky

Frankel took out his trainer's license in New York back in 1965, and quickly established himself as a master of the claiming game with an uncanny ability to win with cheap

Still, his frank opinions about the problems in racing, and the people who ruled it, preveoted him from getting highquality horses. He moved his stable to Hollywood park in 1972, winning 55 races his first season, and set a record the following year with 60 wins out of 180 starts.

Bu the 1980s the quality of his_horses_had_improved_considerably.
In 1982, Frankel sent out

Mehmet to beat the legendary John Henry twice in less than a month. After claiming the hapless Wickerr for \$50,000. Frankel turned around and won four stakes races with him in 1981-82.

Around the California tracks. Frankel became known as a "foot guru" — an expert on the care of a horse's hooves.

In 1991, Frankel was approached by Juddmonte's Prince Khalid Abdullah, a member of Saudi Arabia's royal family. After interviewing several prominent West Coast trainers - including. Charlie Whittingham, D. Wayne Lukas, and Ron McA-

showed no interest and the auction subsided in the no man's land of five

of a minor with nine tricks on top at

West led the queen of clubs to East's ace and a club was returned to declarer's king. To the third trick declarer led the deuce of trumps, West followed with the three and

dummy's four was played. East showed out and the first round of

No, declarer was not peeping. Having already lost one trick, the

contract was safe as long as declared

contract was safe as long as declarer lost no more than one trump trick. The defenders could come to two diamond tricks only if the suit broke 4-0. If East held all the trumps, there was nothing declarer could do to avoid defeat. Declarer simply took a safety play against a trump stack in the West hand. If East had nothing declared a trump the seed him.

produced a trump, the ace and king would have picked up the outstand-ing trumps and declarer could claim

What if West had inserted a dia-

mond honor on the first lead? De-clarer would have won and, when

East failed to follow, come back to

hand to lead a second trump, finessing if West did not put up another

honor. The pretty safety play limits

amonds had been won by the four!

nally, who edged Frankel for Trainer of the Year last year, - Prince Abdullah chose the

foulmouthed street kid.

Frankel was sent one Juddmonte horse as a trial run, "We seot him our biggest problem horse," said John Chandler, who runs Juddmonte's Kentucky operation. "If Bobby could do something with Exbourne, then he was certainly worthy of our busi-

In the 1991 Hollywood turf handicap, Exbourne charged from last place to devastate a field that included prized, Itsaligreektome, and Missionary Ridge, another Frankel trainee.

Exbourne won two more stakes that year before breakign down in a workout at Santa Anita in the spring of 1992. After surgery and nearly a year recuperating at Frankel's barn, a seven-year-old Exbourne began his second career as a stallion in April.

Frankel seems content with life in laid back L.A., except for the nagging void that comes from being winless in 16 Breeders Cup races. He came close in 1986 when

his Theatrical lost to Manila by a neck in the turf. and again in 1991 when Val Des Bois lost by a length to Opening Verse in

Frankel was to have saddled two Juddmonte horses Saturday. Jolypha in the distaff and Toussaud in the mile. But Jolypha suffered a career-ending injury in a workout last Thursday.

His best chance for a Breeders' Cup breakthrough comes with the front-running speedster Bertrando in the classic.

Frankel insists he has become "much more diplomatic" in recent years. On Sunday morning, he sat in the grandstands with Bertrando's owner. Ed Nabem, and watched the colt sizzle six furlongs in 1:10-4/5 seconds.

Nahem turned to Frankel. "Looks good, don't he?" Frankel wrinkled his nose.

"Exbourne would killed him," he replied.

Turkey to be punished for crowd trouble

(Agencies) — Turkey are set to play their next under-21 home match in an empty stadium following incidents dur-

ing a game last month.

A Polish player was hit by a coin during an uoder-21 international on Oct. 26.

The European Football Un-ion, UEFA, ruled Wednesday that Turkey's game against Norway next Tuesday should be a lock-out for local fans.

The Turkish Football Federation have appealed and a final decision will be taken by the weekend.

Meanwhile, some 160 Manchester United soccer fans were arrested early Wednesday following a disturbance at a hotel in Istanbul where the team was due to play local club Galatasaray in a Champions

About 30 of the fans escaped from police custody, while the rest were being brought to court to face possible charges and deportation, according to the British consulate. Hotel staff said the fans

wrecked 30 rooms, ransacked the hotel lobby and stole money from a safe. According to an English

policeman, who was monitoring the fans' behaviour in Istanbul, the Turkish police arrested everyone in sight after hearing reports of theft and damage to the hotel.

Ken Ramsden, Manchester United's assistant secretary, said he knew nothing of any violence or vandalism, merely an alleged theft of money.

A British consulate spokeswoman, who declined to be identified, denied Turkish press reports that anyone had been injured or hospitalised. "There were only one or two minor treatments." she said.e The consulate, she said, was in touch with the police and

following the developments. It

would give the fans legal sup-

port if needed, she added.

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Spanish soccer in a state of shock after European disasters

MADRID (R) - Spanish soccer was io a state of shock Wednesday after the humiliation of Valencia and the controversial climination of Atletico Madrid in the UEFA Cup

Tuesday. The 7-0 thrashing of Spanish League leaders Valencia by Karlsruhe of Germany left players, coach and directors shaking their heads with disbe-Club Chairman Arturo

Tuzon described it as "a debacle, a disaster," adding: "This was one of the saddest nights Dutch coach Guus Hiddink

bravely confronted reporters. "We didn't even have the pride to fight back," he said. "This must have been one of the worst matches in the history of Valencia.

The result was doubly sbocking after the first leg in which Valencia comprehensively outplayed Karlsruhe and were unlucky not to go into the second

leg with more thao a 3-1 lead. They had five clear chances in Tuesday's match and hit the post twice near the end of the first half, but finally folded under the high-speed, no-frills onslaught of the Germans. What we have to do now,

although it will be hard, is draw the necessary conclusions and then forget it," Hiddink

For Atletico the pill of de-

feat by Ofi Crete was just as was a hard blow for me. It bitter and much more laced with controversy.

Spanish commentators were unanimous that Ofi's second goal, which overturned Atletico's 1-0 first leg lead, existed only in the eyes of the Czech referee - and of 15,000 ecstatic Cretan fans.

"We were robbed," "this was a mugging," and "it didn't go in" were among a raft of headlines insisting that a 61st minute penalty, itself hotly disputed, was saved by goalkeeper Diego Diaz and did not cross the line.

Diego dived to his right to turn George Tsifoutis's shot against the inside of the post. As it bounced back across

the goal Diego dived again to scoop the ball away with his left hand, but the referee ruled it had crossed the line, a view apparently contradicted by

television replays. Atletico's explosive Chairman Jesus Gil was unusually

restrained in his comments. "I knew that if they scored one goal the referee would give tbem another," he said, but refused to be drawn into speci-

fic accusations against officials. "What's the point talking about the referee? All we cando is send a video to UEFA so that they see that the goal should not have been given and keep it among the injustices they have perpetrated against Atletico.

Timman casts doubt on Karpov's chess title

JAKARTA (R) - Dutchman Jao Timman has cast doubt on the credibility of Anatoly Karpov's world chess title after losing an exhausting eightweek struggle with the Russian io Indonesia this week.

Timman, 41, was finally beaten 12.5 points to 8.5 by Karpov, 42, Monday in the official title match which was often upstaged by a rival contest between Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short in London. "Karpov is not the world's number one," Timman told

Kasparov has proved himself the best in both tournament and match play. Karpov

reporters.

is the official world champion but I am not sure what that really means."

Karpov is ranked second in the world to Kasparov of Russia and his ranking will not improve as a result of his unexpectedly narrow victory over Timman, ranked 31st.

Kasparov, 30, was stripped of his official world title in April by the World Chess Federation for refusing to play his title defence against England's Short under the auspices of the federation.

He claims to be the only legitimate world champion and bas tried to set up an alternative world title system.

After hearing Timman's comments Karpov was reluctant to compare himself with Kasparov, the winner of an unofficial world title defence against Short, 28, in London

"It's not a sensible question. There are now two systems and two world champions," said Karpov, undisputed world champion from 1975 to 1985.

"Of course, we should have only one world champion. I don't think the break-away (by Kasparov and Dhort) was good for chess."

Timman agreed, saying, "there was no good reasons for the break-away, otherwise I

would have supported it." Karpov and Timman doubted if Kasparov would be able to set up a fair qualifying system for the world title. 'Kasparov's world cham-

pionship qualifying tournament offers really quite poor financial conditions." Timman

"In any case, I did not receive an official invitation to play in their tournament," he added, hinting be might have been blacklisted by organisers with connections to Kasparov.

Timman believes the division in the chess world could worsen." "I fear for the fu-

ceived poor reviews for its per-

President Carlos Monem

was one of the few to praise

Argentina's play in Sydney. "In general, the team played

well and the result was good,"

Mr. Menem said after watch-

ing the game on television at

But even Mr. Menem, an

avid soccer fan, admitted that

Australia "dictated the pace of

"Australia is a very strong

Many Argentines awoke.

early Sunday or stayed up all night to watch the first game of

the two-match playoff, which began at 5:30 a.m. (0830

The newspaper La Nacion,

in a front-page article, said

Argentina's play, "did not

La Nacion praised Marado-

na for setting up the team's

only goal, a header by Abel

Balbo, but said Maradona

team looked pale," said the

tabloid Diario Popular. The

team plays badly and has no

Clarin, the nation's widest-

circulated daily, questioned

coach Basile's decision to re-

place seven of the players who

started in Argentina's 5-0 loss

to Colombia in the World Cup

qualifying tournament in

doubts," read a Clarin head-

papers, said the team played

well on defence but poorly on

"New names and old

Clarin, like most other news-

order, dynamism or surprises."

Once again the Argentine

home.

the game.'

satisfy."

'didn't shine.'

team." he said.

formance against Australia.

World Cup hopefuls Australia arrive in Chile

SANTIAGO (Agencies) — Australia, who drew 1-1 with Argentina in the first leg of their 1994 World Cup qualifier in Sydney Sunday, arrived here to begin preparations for the return match.

The team were to train Wednesday and play Chilean side Colo Colo Thursday as they warm up for their Nov. 17 match against Argentina in-Buenos Aires.

Colo Colo, the 1991 Libertadores Cup Champions, are leading the Chilean League with 12 victories in 18 matches. Their total of 28 points put them five points clear of their nearest rivals.

Meanwhile, Argentina are likely to recall defender Oscar Ruggeri and forward Diego Simeone for their return World Cup match with Australia. The two players were suspended Coach Alfio Basile, who

flew in Tuesday, described the draw as satisfactory. "Australia were difficult to play against. They have good individual players and good tactics." he said, "But 1 think we did the hard work and can

qualify next week.' Diego Maradona, who said his sore right hamstring would be okay next week, said last week's result had proved there were no longer any easy oppo-

"We're confident but we don't write them off," he said of Australia.

He dismissed Hungarian referee Sandor Puhl's comments



Argentina's goal scorer Abel Balbo (centre) collides with Australia's Mehmet Durakovic (left) as Argentine captain Diego Maradona looks on during the first leg World Cup qualifying match in Sydney (AFP

pitch."

he said.

The Nov. 17 match is being

The national soccer team re-

played in River Plate Stadium.

that he was better when he was fatter.

"That's not a clever thing to say. I had only played two couldn't run non-stop for 90 minutes," he said.

mes in a bid to get ready but hardly did more than stroll throughout the maich.

Maradona lost 12 kilogram-

although he did set up the Argentinian goal. "That's more important than matches in five months, I running everywhere on the

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Tarawneh: Strong support for peace exists in Jordan

There is a solid base of support for the Middle East peace process in Jordan, Jordan's ambassador to the United States, Fayez Tarawneh, said Tuesday.

Working out the practical details of the peace process in a timely fashion, however, is integral to sustaining that support, he said.

Dr. Tarawneh reviewed the status of the Middle East peace process and reflected on the region's future during a luncheon discussion sponsored by the American Jewish Committee. The discussion is part of the group's ongoing Ambassadors Forum lecture series.

Asked about support for the Middle East peace process in Jordao, the ambassador said Jordanians and Palestinians alike are looking towards the future. "Pragmatism is in-creasingly becoming more dominant than symbolism," he

While the voice of opposition tends to be louder, there is a "silent majority" of support for the peace process in Jordan, Dr. Tarawneh said.

To underscore bis point, the ambassador said that during a recent visit to Amman be noticed the dominance of moderate political slogans leading up to the coming elections in Jordan, he said.

"I can say that what I saw in Amman just three days ago is very encouraging in terms of accepting the new realities." the ambassador said.

Sustaining the support of this "silent majority" is key to the success of the peace process. he stressed.

"People are still in the period of wait and see, because what we have at hand is an agreement on certain principles. But there are a lot of details to be negotiated and agreed upon. ...It will all depend on the direction of these small practical details." he

Keeping to a time-table is also crucial to sustaining this the amhassador SUPPORT, stressed. The declaration of principles signed by Israel and the Palestinians and the common agenda agreed upon between Jordan and the Israelis "have created very high expectations" in the region, he

"It is very important to meet the time targets. Otherwise we are pushing some of those who are in the silent majority towards opposition," he said. In this regard, he commended Israel and the Palestinians for quickly moving "towards putting the practical steps" of the accord into motion.

The ambassador said Jordan would like to see the United States "put more effort into realising certain movement" in the Israeli-Syrian and Israeli-Lebanese negotiations. He said the United States should work to keep "the state of

On the Jordanian-Israeli negotiations. the ambassador said there should be coordination between the implementation of the common agenda and the declaration of principles. Underscoring this need, he noted that while the issue of refugees will be tackled during the final status negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, this issue is now on the common agenda with Jordan.

Reviewing the grave fiscal situation in Jordan created by the absorption of refugees and the after-effects of the Gulf war, the ambassador said, "We feel it is very crucial to address the structural, econmomic problems of Jordan."

To that end, be said the recent donors conference to provide financial assistance to the Palestinians should be the first phase in a more comprehensive attempt to address the economic ills of the region. Ensuring political stability and pursuing regional economic cooperation are the keys to addressing these problems, he

"We know in the area that we are losing a lot of opportunities" such as in trade, transportation and tourism. he said. "Still, to coovince the world to come and invest in our area. we need stability."

oycott," he said. He added that Jordan is pre-The ambassador undersently discussing with Israel the scored his view on the importissue of Jordanian exports not ance of economic cooperation being allowed into the West when asked about the possibil-

said.

Fayez Tarawneh

vail in the future.'

ity of a confederation between

the Palestinians and Jordan.

Political confederation, he

said. "is the least worry. What

is more important is the econo-

mic arrangements that will pre-

Discussion on political con-

federation should wait until the

final status negotiations deter-

mine the issues of borders,

withdrawal and security, he

Asked about the Arab eco-

nomic boycott of Israel, the

ambassador said this issue will

be addressed in the final status

negotiations. This is an "issue

that is taken very. very serious-

ly and will be discussed in the

legalistic and political discus-

sions of the peace process." he

discussing all the core roots of

the conflict. It is important not

to leave anything that might be

future, including the Arab

cause of instability in the

"We are in a process of



Israeli belicopter gunships blasted suspected guerrilla hideouts in South Lebanon Wednesday following a guerrilla attack in South Lebanon,

security sources said. No casualties were reported in the 7 a.m. (0500 GMT) raid on the village of Zawtar, five kilometres southeast of the market town of Nabatiyeb.

The sources said one of the two raiding Cobras fired two rockets, one of which hit the house of Mohammad Al Harb, penetrating three walls. The other rocket crashed in the back vard.

Mr. Harb, his wife and six childreo miraeolously survived.

The sources said the helicopter strike came less than 40 minutes after unidentified guerrillas attacked an outpost manoed by Israeli-allied militiameo of the South Lebanon Army (SLA).

No group claimed responsi-bility for the attack. The sources said the guerrillas fired dozens of mortar rounds and grenades on the edge of the western sector of

Israel's self-styled "security

zone.1 SLA gunners struck back with a barrage of artillery fire arouod Zawtar and the Litani reported no casualties from the

'Syria holding Arad'

An Israeli navigator widely believed beld by Iran is actual ly in Syrian hands, the Palestine Liberatioo Organisation's (PLO) top intelligence official was quoted as saying Wednesday.

Syria also is holding the bodies of three Israeli soldiers missing in Lebanon since 1982. aid the official, Nizar Amar, a negotiator in the Israel-PLO talks on Palestinian autonomy.

The Israeli servicemen became an issue in the talks after Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin last week linked the release of Palestinian prisoners by Israel to information about the mis-

Rabin spokesman Gad Ben-Ari on Wednesday refused comment on Mr. Amar's statements which, if true, could further complicate the delicate peace negotiations with Syria. Syria has said it knows no-

thing about the whereabouts of ine navigator, Kon Arad, and the three missing soldiers -Zakariya Baumel, Yehuda Katz and Zui Feldman.

Three convicted hanged in Egypt

CAIRO (Agencies) — Three Islamic militants were hanged here Wednesday for murder and armed robbery, raising to 18 the number of militants March 1992. executed in Egypt in less than six months.

The three were sentenced to death by a military court on Aug. 12. along with a fourth militant of the underground group Al Shawqiyin dissidents who has evaded capture.

They were convicted of the murder of four people and attempting to kill nine others in 1992, in a series of armed robberies of jewellery shops owned by Coptic Christians in Cairo and Faiyum, 100 kilometres to the south.

The robberies were carried out to finance "terrorist operations," according to police. The militants were also accused of setting up an organisation with the goal of toppling the government.

Thirty-eight Islamic militants have been sentenced to death since December 1992. and 18 militants have now been hanged since May, all hut one of them sentenced by military courts.

On Saturday, a military court in Cairo passed a death sentence against eight militants of the Islamie group Talaeh Al Fatah (Vanguards of conquest) for plotting to overthrow the government of President Hosni Mubarak.

The president transferred trials of suspected militants to

in a bid to stop a wave of violence that has killed 225 people since the militants declared war on the authorities in

The second of th

Yeltsin moves

MOSCOW (AFP) - Presiden

Boris Yeltsin ordered mea

sures Wednesday to provide shelter and social benefits to

Russia's homeless and said

beggars should be taken off the

streets. In a decree published

by ITAR-TASS, Mr. "elisiz

ordered police forces to detain

for up to 10 days all "vagrant.

and heggars" who are to undergo a medical examina

tion and be directed to employ

ment and welfare authorities

The Russian leader also tok

the government to set up

network of "social rehabilita

tion centres" tasked with belp

ing the homeless find employment and obtain social be

nefits. The number of home

less people has risen drastical.

in the past two years, in par

ticular among the workin poor, the elderly and the sic

wbo have been bardest bit b

free-market reforms. Unde

the former Communist regime all Soviet citizens were guarar

teed the right to housing eve if that guarantee was fulfille

tbrough overcrowded 'com

munal apartments. Hundred

of homeless people in Mosco;

converge on the city's trai

stations for shelter at nigh

while poverty-stricken Rus

sians bave been forced to stan

outside subway stations, cap i

hand, to make ends meet.

to shelter

homeless

The death toll includes 68 policemen and 77 militants. Six foreigners have also been killed, crippling Egypt's vital tourism industry.

The military trials have been strongly criticised by human rights groups, including Amnesty International which charged that torture was used to extract confessions.

The U.S. organisation Middie East Warch complained on Oct. 21 that the verdicts of the military courts were not subject to appeal, as is required in international law for civilian defendants. Ramadan Mustapha Hassan.

28, Ali Fayed, 27, and Sayed Abdel Razek Badri, 20, were hanged one after another beginning at 7 a.m. (0500 GMT) and ending after 9 a.m., military prosecutors said.

President Mubarak has shown no mercy to militants who have attacked public figures, police and tourists in a campaign to overthrow him and install a purist Islamic

A military court condemned the three to death on Aug. 21 for attempted murder, gold rohbery and conspiring to topple the Egyptian state. A fourth man, still at large, was sentenced to death in absentia.

Diana, Camilla **Parker Bowles** at same service

LONDON (AP) — Princes Diana, separated wife o Prince Charles, and Camill-Parker Bowles, said by British tabloids to have been bis lover shared beadlines Wednesda after both attended the same hurch service for a dead earl The wife and the mistress, the London tabloid Todaheadlined its report. "Dian. walked past her stoney faced

— Camilla looked to the ground." The two women both attended the memorial service Tuesday for the late Earl of Westmorland in the swant Guard' Chapel behind Buck: ingham Palace. The earl wanumber three in the royabousehold with the title Maste of the Horse. The Britinational news agency Pre-Association said the tv women are not known to has been under the same roof fa more than a year. They did no speak. Queen Elizabeth II ark her husbaod Prince Philip greeted the princess warml outside the chapel as Princes Diana arrived about 15 minutes after Mrs. Parker Bowles, who attended the service with ber parents and husband. Princess Diana responded to the queen's greeting with a broad smile. Prince Charles, the queen's 44-year-old son and heir, missed the service.

Magazine apologises to Japan empress

TOKYO (AP) - A magazine under fire for publishing series of articles critical o Empress Michiko bas apolo gised to the palace, official: said Wednesday. According to the palace, the Shukan Buni shun, Japan's most widely read weekly, has also promised to publish a formal apology in it next issue, which goes on sale Thursday. "The magazine, has informed us that they wave earnestly taken our position ioto account and will apologist for expressions that might have invited misunderstanding," the palace said in a statement Bunshun officials could not be reached for comment because of a national boliday. Empres: Michiko, who over the pas three months had been the target of unprecedentedly barsh media criticism, suffered an apparent nervous break down on her 59th birthday two weeks ago. She remains unable to speak but is otherwise

Man cleared of biting police dog

healthy.

SAN DIEGO, California (AFP) — A diver was acquit ted here of biting a police do

.N. aggressive action is over in Somalia -

MOGADISHU (R) — U.S. envoy Robert Oakley told relief workers in Somalia on Wednesday that aggressive U.S. and U.N. military actions in Mogadishn had ended, a U.N. official said.

Mr. Oakley also said his meeting with representatives from Somalia's main feuding factions on Tuesday had been "positive" but made no predictions on when peace may be restored in the shattered Horn of Africa country.

It was not immediately known whether Mr. Oakley had met warlord Mobammad Farah Aidzed, chairman of the umbrella organisation Somal National Alliance (SNA) and leader of attacks in recent months against U.S. and other U.N. forces.

U.N7 sources said Mr. Oakley, in Mogadishu since Mon-

officials on Wednesday. President Bill Clinton's special envoy said U.S. troops would return to Mogadishu streets in the next few days but he had been unable to make assurances about peace, the U.N. official said.

"Peace efforts may work until February or March - but after they (American forces) leave it's an open book and different factions throughout the country are already on the move," said the U.N. official, who declined to be named.

Mr. Clinton bas ordered U.S. troops, the backbone of U.N. forces in Mogadishu, to stop the manbunt for Gen. Aideed, who is wanted for the murder of 24 Pakistani peacekeepers in June.

Mr. Clinton has stressed talks as a solution to Somalia's problems and has announced U.S. troops would leave on Marcb 31.

The U.N.'s James Jonah, undersecretary-general for political affairs, told reporters was expected to met SNA . in New York that clan leaders feared civil war would resume in southern Somalia if the U.N. military operation crumbles after U.S. troops leave. Mr. Oakley has avoided direct cootact with the media

since his latest mission which, diplomats say is "almost impossible. They say Mr. Oakley faces a

daunting task of reaching a common ground with Gen. Aideed, whose political support in Somalia has grown during a six-month guerrilla war waged against the U.N.

Mr. Oakley separately briefed the U.N. special en-voy, retired U.S. Admiral Jonathan Howe, on his secretive peace mission. Gen. Aldeed's militia has

humiliated U.N. and U.S. forces in hit-and-run battles and driven peacekeepers off the streets of Mogadishu and then turned to clan-based bloodletting.

Mr. Oakley flics to Uganda's capital Kampala on Thursday led by Ethiopia's President Meles Zenawi trying to forge and African peace deal in

Mr. Oakley's talks will be on the sidelines of a summit of an 18-nation Eastern and Soothern African Trade Group.

U.S. M1-A1 tanks. armoured vehicles and howitzers were moved from the port to a new base on the city outskirts.

Officials said the equipment would be used to protect U.S. and U.N. forces and to prevent a repeat of the Oct. 3 incident when 18 poorly covered U.S. Army Rangers were pinned down and killed.

U.S. army officials say privately the display of force is designed to persuade Gen. Aideed to agree peace.

Diplomats say Mr. Oakley will have to deal with demands from Gen. Aideed's SNA to release of aides detained by the U.N. for attacks on its 28,900-

Iraqi policeman killed – Oakley River, the sources said. They half-hour elash. in Kuwait border clash

KUWAIT CITY (Agencies) -An Iraqi policeman was shot and fatally wounded and another injured in a skirmish with civilians on the Kuwaiti side of the border, a U.N. spokesman said Wednesday.

It was the first deadly border incident between Iragis and Kuwaitis since the 1991 Gulf war, although there have been several violations of the disputed frontier.

Abdul Latif Kabbaj of the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observer Mission (UNIKOM) said three policemen infiltrated northern Kuwait just west of Umm Qasr port on Tuesday.

The third Iraqi evacuated his injured colleagues toward the soutbern. Iraqi city of Basra after an exchange of fire with the Kuwaiti civilians, he said. Mr. Kabbaj said unarmed U.N. observers intervened but the police fired warning in the air and the six Kuwaitis shot hitting one Iraqi in the arm and seriously wounding another in the chest.

The second policeman later died in a Basra hospital, he said, quoting lraqi authorities. The Kuwaiti Interior Ministry first reported the incident late Tuesday charging that the Iraqis tried to abduct a group of workers digging a trench along the border under the

U.N. supervision. The United Nations has set a new land border after Iraqi troops were driven out of Kuwait in February 1991. giving the emirate an extra strip of land some 600 metres wide along the frontier.

On the political front, Kuwait on Wednesday rejected an Iraqi proposal to set up an Arab committee to investigate the fate of Kuwaitis reported missing since the Iraqi invasion in August 1990, Foreign Ministry spokesman Ahmad Al Jassem told AFP:

"Kuwait rejects all Iraqi proposals on prisoners that are not founded on international legitimacy and the U.N. Security Council resolutions,"

Iraq was trying to "get ound" the U.N. economic round embargo imposed on Iraq after it invaded Kuwait, Mr. Jassem said.

Baghdad said Tuesday it had asked Qatar and Morocco to set up a committee to "investigate directly" the question of missing persons, "in order to close the file on the so-called prisoners.

Kuwait has accused Iraq of holding more than 600 Kuwaiti prisoners, a charge denied by Baghdad.

Iraq has arrested scores of Kuwaitis and foreign workers at the disputed border and imprisoned them for illegal entry. Iraq has recently released

three Swedes and one Filipioo. Three Germans, two Britons. an American and a Frenchman remain jailed.

Tribal cohesion fractured in elections

By Mariam M. Shahin Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - When the oneperson, one-vote formula was introduced into Jordan's electoral process in August, political analysts began to predict that tribal affiliations would largely determine the outcome of the Nov. 8 elections. But only several days before polling day, an increasing number of observers feel that the new law has fragmented more families than it united on the campaign trail.

The new electoral formula has not only weakened political parties by preventing the kind of alliances that would have been available to them as an option under the old bloe-voting system, these observers say. The tribes and smaller families have suffered

as a result." "In every clan or tribe, or even family, you have at least four political persuasions, a leftist or pan-Arabist, ao Islamist, a right-wiog and a netural independent," a member of the large Al Adwan tribe says.

"As a result of these inner trībal affiliations, votes 'are likely to be split not once but twice at least. It is thus not uncommon for a leftist member of the family to vote for someone other than his cousin, who is running for the election but who nevertheless does not share this ideologic-

al or political point of view." When the 1986 Election Law came under review by the first government of Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker in 1989, the concept of the one-person. one-vote formula was rejected as a possible amendment because it could generate tribal squabbles and splinter the traditional Jordanian concept of community lead-

But "the new voting formula has made it possible for both parties and tribes to be split over the candidacy of one politician or tribal representative," according to Yassin Tarawneh, a pan-Arab candidate in Karak.

"Those who pushed for the new law did not want community representation in Parliament but a grouping of individuals who speak with 80 different voices." he says.

But not everyone agrees with Mr. Tarawneh's

The campaigns are community oriented but not necessarily tribal," says Mustapha Hamarneh, Director of the Centre for Strategic Studies at the University of

analysis.

The on-going elections are parochial in that they do not concern themselves with national issues, preferring to concentrate on insular local and regional issues, he says. The issues and campaigns

may be truly provincial, but to say there is consensus on certain candidates on a tribal hase is an exaggeration." A son of a candidate from Ramtha agrees. "You will have a split tribal vote even in

No less than 18 candidates are vying for the three Muslim seats allocated to the Ramtha and Beni Kenanah

the most cohesive regions,"

A few clans, such as the Obeidats in Bani Kenana, the Batainehs in Irbid and the Majalis in Karak, held trihal

primaries and thus decided

who their tribal candidates



would be. In almost every case, at least one other member of the clan fielded himself as an independent.

With voting members of the Obeidat clan being estimated at 10,000 and the Maialis at 6,500, even relatively minor splits could create a threat to the tribal candidates, some observers be-

Qaseem Obeidat, who was bis clan's successful candidate during the 1989 elections, is now challenging his official tribes' candidate, after the former deputy failed to win his family's primaries this time. While Bani Kenanah observers expect him to take about one-fifth of the Obeidat votes, they do not believe that he would seriously put the election of the official Obeidat candidate

into jeopardy. tiowever, not all clans can count on such outcomes due to the sheer number of their voters.

Three members of the Malkawi clan are running for a seat also in the Ramtha and Bani Kenanab district. and local observers believe their votes will be so split that none of them will win. In the Koura and Northern Bedouin districts, three members of the Shreideh clan, two brothers and their uncle are competing, leaving family voters angry and threatening to boycott the elections

altogether. "Many members of the Shreidehs are angry because the issue of three candidates

so closely related will force them to take sides they don't want to take — so many are likely to abstain," a member of the Shreideh clan who lives

in Amman says. lo Irbid, on the other hand, former Minister of Health Aref Bataineh and former Minister of Youth Saleb Irsheidat are said to have good chances of success because there is "clan con-

sensus" on their candidacy. But such consensus appears to be the exception rather than the rule.

In the Balqa district seven members of the large Abbadi clan are contesting the same seat. although they belong to different political persua-sions. Nael Masalha Zeidan (Abbadi) is one of four members of the Islamic Action Front running for one of six seats allocated for Muslims.

Meanwhile his relative, Mustapha Shreikat (Ahbadi). is runoing as a candidate for the Jordanian Socialist Democratic Party, an offshoot of the Jordanian Communist Party in the same governorate. This will no doubt split

their tribe's vote and weaken all the candidate's chances. Local observers in almost all districts believe that many political parties including the IAF and the leftist parties looked for the strength of a candidate's tribal backing before choosing him (or her) as their candidate. In almost all districts except the most central Amman districts, where a heavy urhan presence brings regional and political factors into play, this does appear to

be the case. It is widely believed that the IAF fielded two official candidates from the Majali clan in Karak to weaken the hopes of both head of the right-of-centre Al Ahd Party

Abdul Hadi Majali and his independent cousin Bahjat Majali. "The Majali votes won't be

cohesive, but the majority will go to Abdul Hadi despite the IAF's attempt to badly split the Majali votes," says an independent observer of the Karak elections. In the governorate, there are many people who are saying the tribal character of

the region will dominate the

election, but many others are

betting that the lack of tribal

cohesiveness will result in the

failure of many major clans to vote in any of their mem-The issues being raised as local rallies in Karak concern provincial rather than national issues, and with votes scrambled among over 60 candidates running for nine seats, the number of votes 'a single candidate is likely to get are expected to be around 5.000 compared 10 over

'What this means." says parliamentary hopeful Tarawneh (one of seven other Tarawnehs running). is that you will have individuals who represent a very limited number of people with very parochial interests dominating (the next) Parliament.*

12.000 during the 1989 elec-

"Despite all talks to the contrary, the winners of this election will not be party leaders nor tribal chieftains. Mr. Tarawneh maintains.

"The victors will he those with the most regional appeal," he says. "Consequently you will have a Parliament which will focus almost exclusively on local rather than national and foreign affairs - it might well be the most convenient time to make peace with Israel."

Accord to end Kashmir stand-off breaks down

SRINAGAR, India (AFP) -An agreement to end the Indiao army siege of the Hazratbal mosque, where Kashmiri Muslim militants have been holed up for 19 days, collapsed Wednesday, the chief government negotiator said. "I am deeply disappointed. I

was hopeful that everything

would be over today but unfortunately something, somewhere went wrong," said Waiahat Habibullah, a top Kasbmir administration official who has headed the talks with the Mr. Habibullah told AFP tbat he held four rounds of talks on Wedesday with the

representatives of the 50

armed Kashmiri separatists

holed up in the Hazratbal mos-

que on the banks of Srinagar's He declined to reveal what derailed the peaceful settlement to the standoff.

The 50 Kashmiri separatists and 60 to 70 civilians have been trapped inside the white marble mosque since it was strounded by thousands of troops on the night of Oct. 15 during a sweep against insurgents.

A senior government official, Mehmood Ur Rahman, had said earlier Wednesday that an agreement had been reached during talks overnight and the militants would leave the complex during the day. He said the Muslim militants would be separated from civi-

lians after an identification pa-"The law will take its

course," and those rebels who do not already face charges of serious crimes are expected to be let off on bail as part of the agreement, Mr. Rahman said. "We are in a hurry to see the

in Kashmir and throoghout India can heave a sigh of relief," he said. There was hectie activity around the shrine amid expectations the drama was drawing to a close.

Teams from the paramilitary

Border Security Force accom-

episode end so that everybody

panied by masked informants were sent to the mosque to help with the identification of the persons leaving the shrine. Muslim elerics were brought to the mosque to inspect a holy relic — a hair believed to come from the beard of the Prophet Mohammad — to ensure it was unharmed. They were sent

home after nightfall. The militants inside the complex could be heard meanwhile chanting verses from the Koran over loud bailers perched on a mosque minaret.

The rebels have ruled out a surrender, demanding the army lift the siege, allow them safe passage and insisting they would hand over the shrine and the relic to the clergy and

prominent Kashmiri citizens. Troops were out in strength meanwhile enforcing a strict curfew clamped for "operational reasons" over much of Srinagar, Kashmir's summer

The siege of Hazratbal has caused widespread unrest in Kashmir-

that brought him down after a chase. Bronson Johns, 46, was found innocent of assaultion the 9-year-old San Diego police dog, an Alsatian Mr. Johns said all he was doing was opening his mouth in pain and struggling to get the dog off him. The dog, known as Officer Faustus, certainly got the better of Johns, who is suing San Diego for \$32,000 for his broken wrist and bites.

